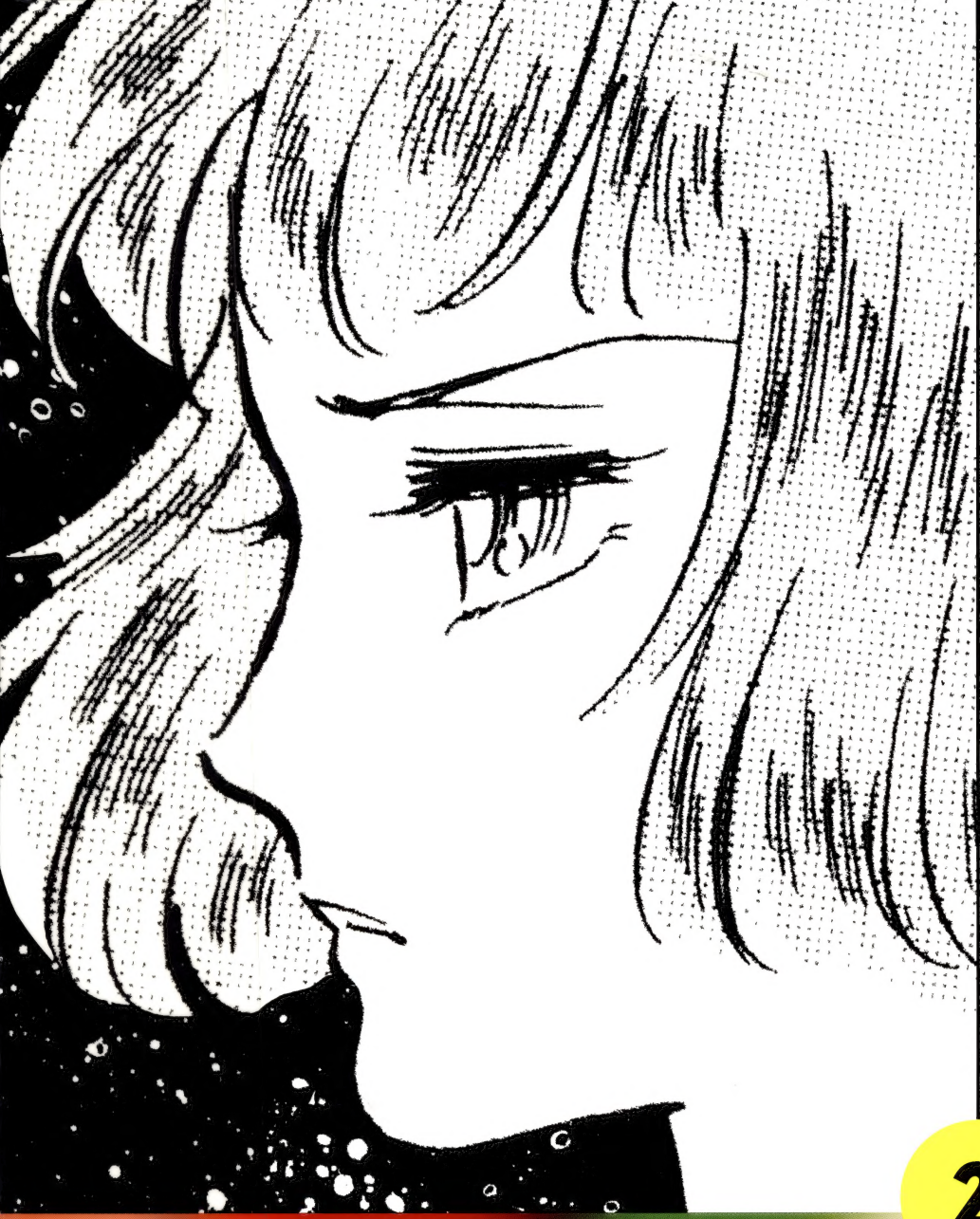

KEIKO TAKEMIYA

STORY BY RYU MITSUSE

2

ANDROMEDA STORIES

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Volume 2

KEIKO TAKEMIYA

story by Ryu Mitsuse

VERTICAL.

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ANDROMEDA STORIES

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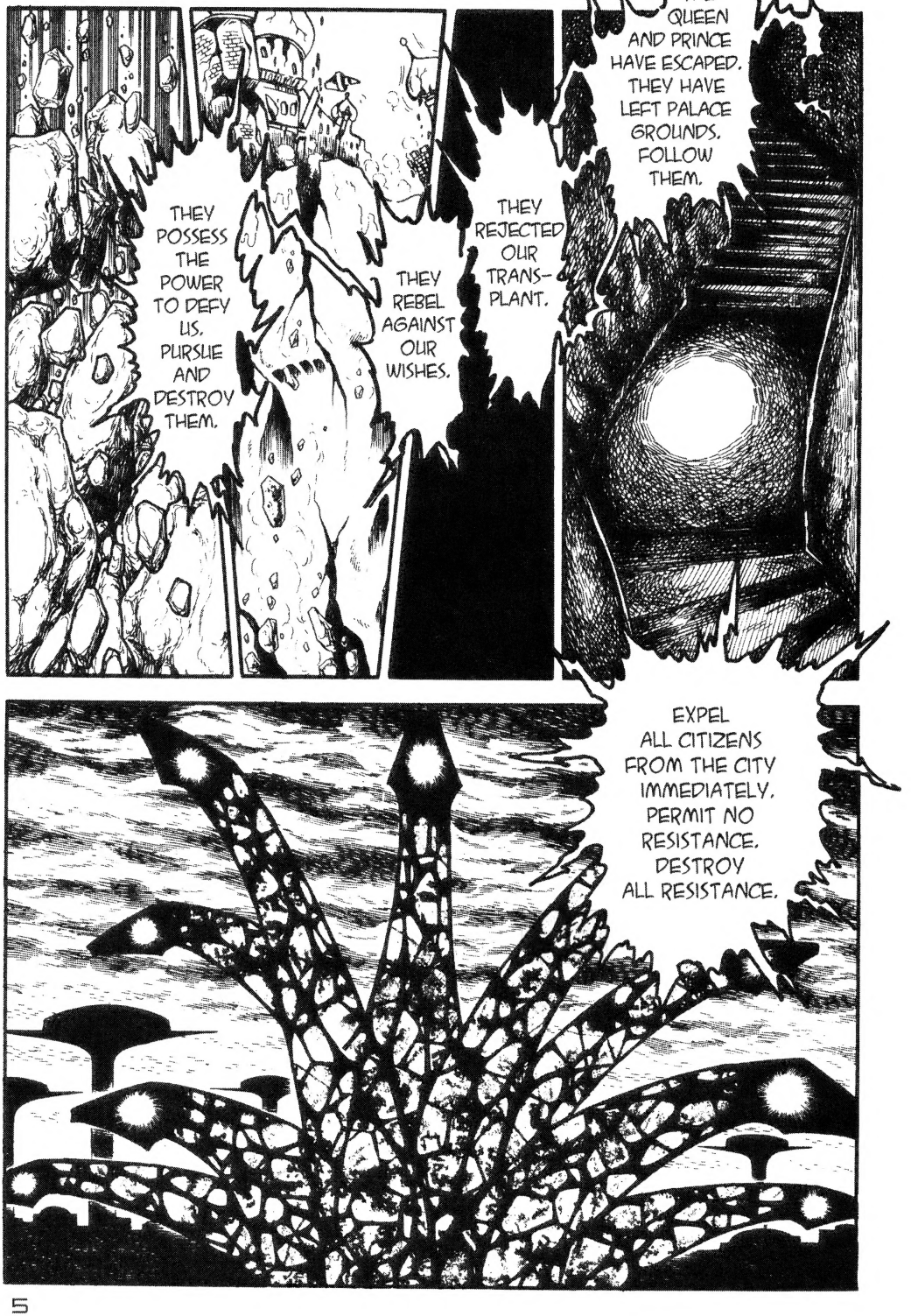
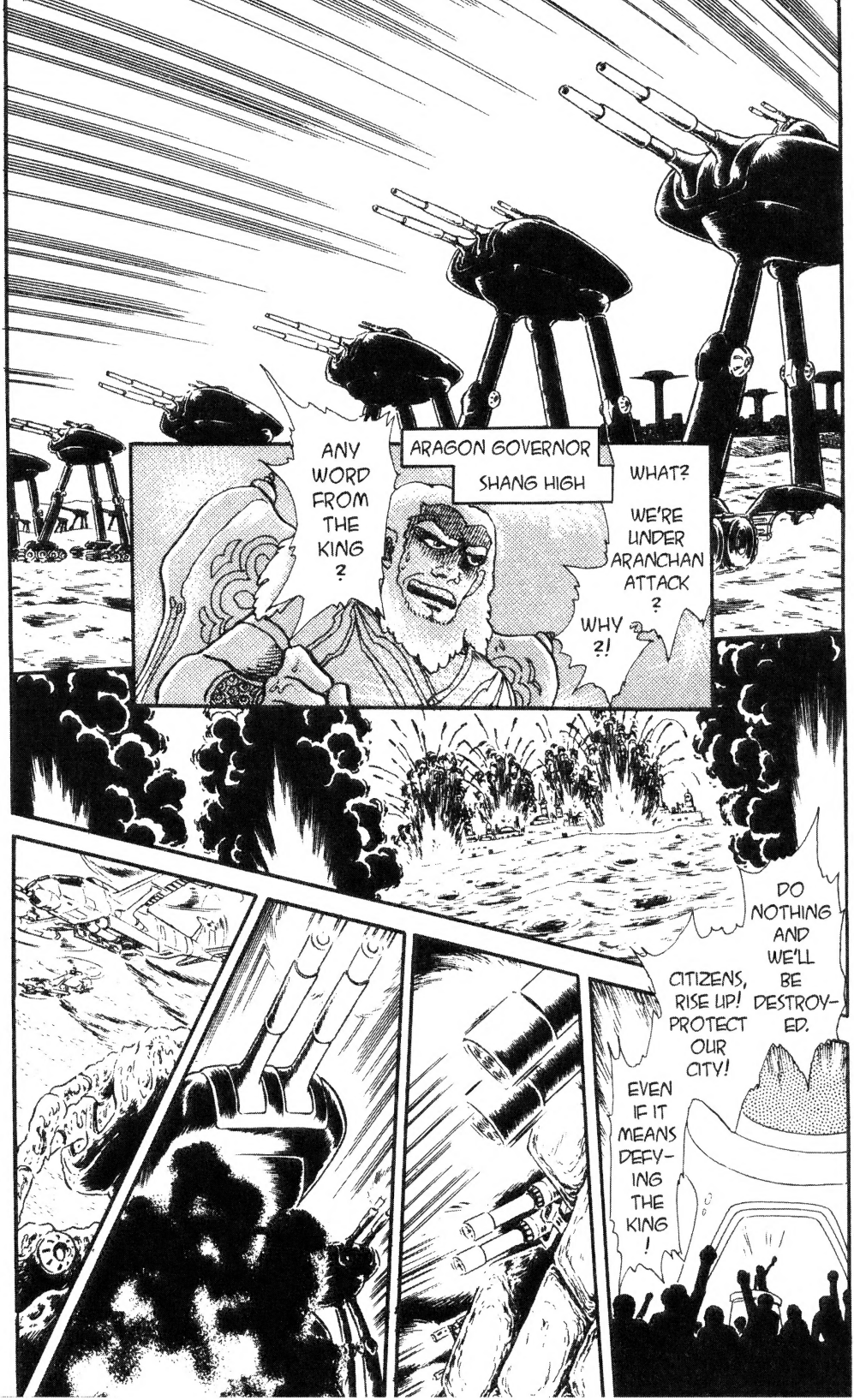
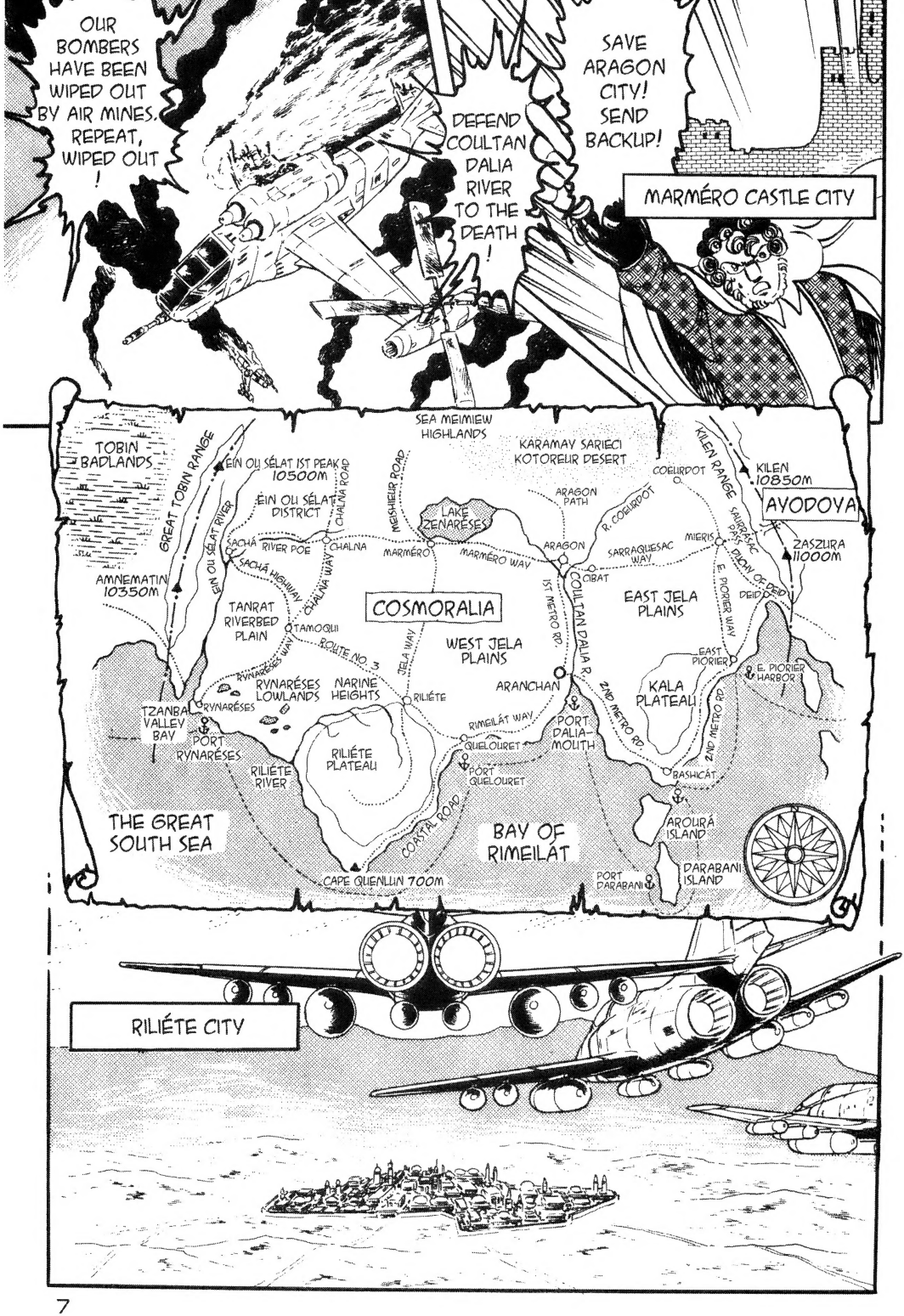
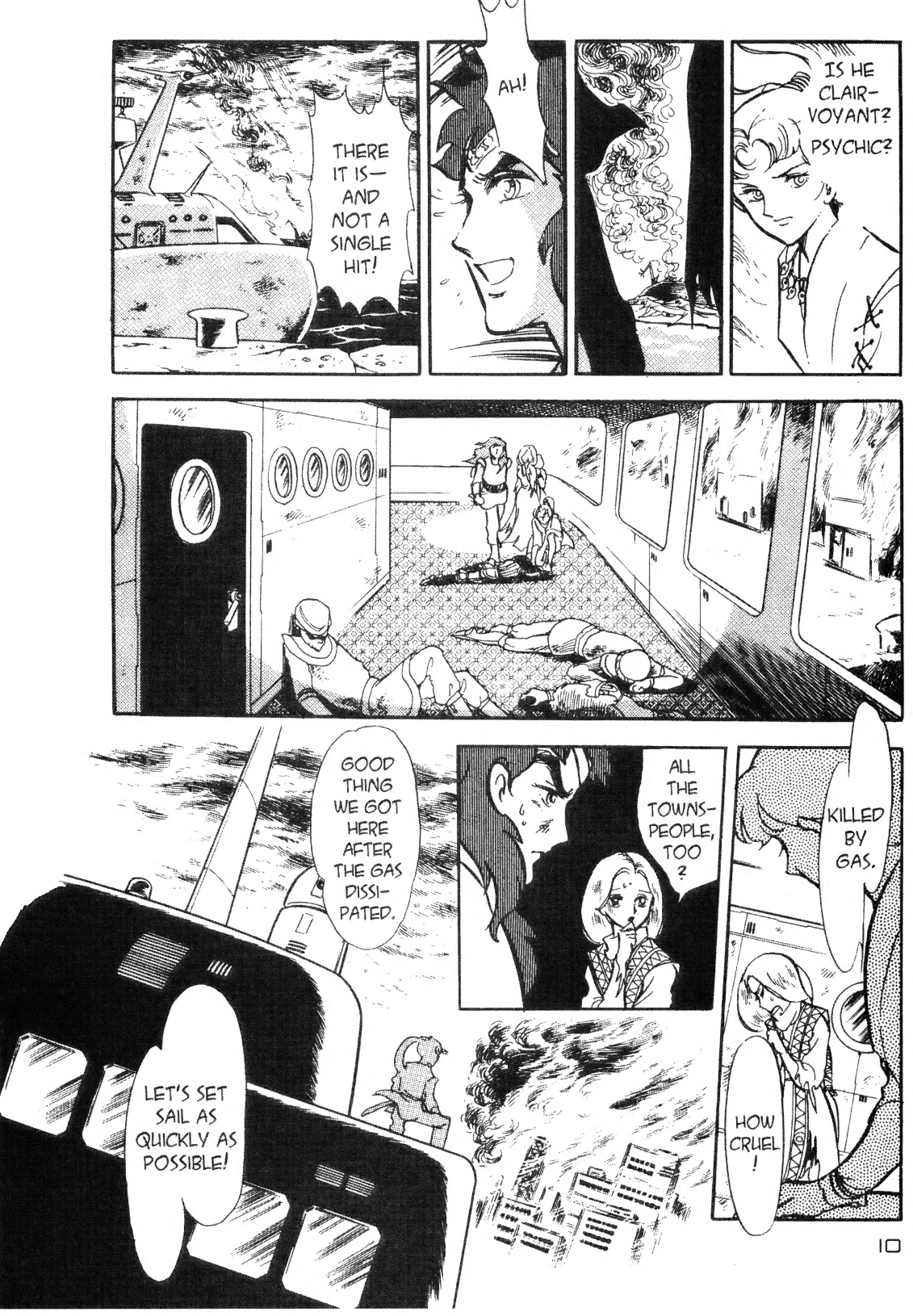

THEY POSSESS THE POWER TO DEFY US. PURSUE AND DESTROY THEM.
THEY REBEL AGAINST OUR WISHES.
THEY REJECTED OUR TRANS-PLANT.
THE QUEEN AND PRINCE HAVE ESCAPED. THEY HAVE LEFT PALACE GROUNDS. FOLLOW THEM.
EXPEL ALL CITIZENS FROM THE CITY IMMEDIATELY. PERMIT NO RESISTANCE. DESTROY ALL RESISTANCE.


ARAGON GOVERNOR
SHANG HIGH
ANY WORD FROM THE KING ?
WHAT?
WE'RE UNDER ARANCHAN ATTACK ?
WHY ?!
DO NOTHING AND WE'LL BE DESTROYED.
CITIZENS, RISE UP! PROTECT OUR CITY!
EVEN IF IT MEANS DEFYING THE KING !


OUR BOMBERS HAVE BEEN WIPED OUT BY AIR MINES. REPEAT, WIPED OUT!
DEFEND COULTAN DALIA RIVER TO THE DEATH!
SAVE ARAGON CITY! SEND BACKUP!
MARMÉRO CASTLE CITY
SEA MEIMIEW HIGHLANDS
TOBIN BADLANDS
GREAT TOBIN RANGE
EIN OLI SÉLAT 1ST PEAK 10500M
EIN OLI SÉLAT DISTRICT
EIN OLI SÉLAT RIVER
CHALNA ROAD
MEISHEUR ROAD
KARAMAY SARIECI KOTOREUR DESERT
LAKE ZENARÉSES
ARAGON PATH
COELURDOT
R. COELURDOT
KILEN RANGE
KILEN 10850M
AYODOYA
SAURRASAC PASS
DUCHY OF DEID
ZASZURA 11000M
SACHÁ RIVER POE
CHALNA
MARMÉRO
MARMÉRO WAY
ARAGON
SARRAQUESAC WAY
MIERIS
CIBAT
AMNEMATIN 10350M
SACHÁ HIGHWAY
CHALNA WAY
COSMORALIA
1ST METRO RD.
COULTAN DALIA R.
EAST JELA PLAINS
E. PIORIER WAY
DEID
TANRAT RIVERBED PLAIN
TAMOQUI
ROUTE NO. 4
JELA WAY
WEST JELA PLAINS
EAST PIORIER
E. PIORIER HARBOR
RYNARÉSES WAY
RYNARÉSES LOWLANDS
NARINE HEIGHTS
RILIÉTE
ARANCHAN
2ND METRO RD
KALA PLATEAU
TZANBA VALLEY BAY
RYNARÉSES
PORT RYNARÉSES
RIMEILÁT WAY
QUELOURET
PORT DALIA MOUTH
2ND METRO RD
RILIÉTE PLATEAU
RILIÉTE RIVER
PORT QUELOURET
BASHCÁT
THE GREAT SOUTH SEA
COASTAL ROAD
BAY OF RIMEILÁT
AROURÁ ISLAND
CAPE QUENLLIN 700M
PORT DARABANI
DARABANI ISLAND
RILIÉTE CITY

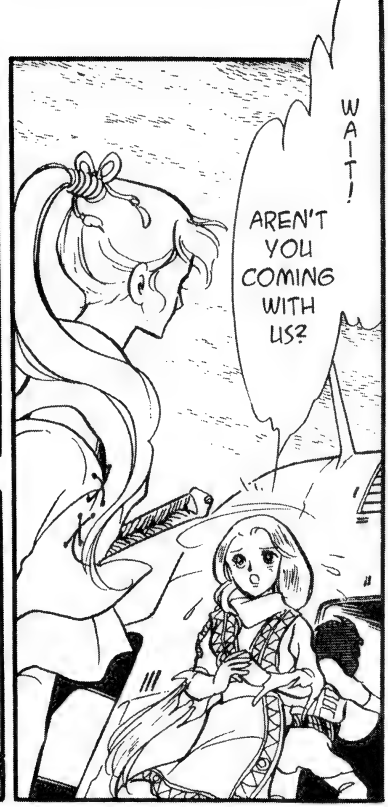
AYODOYA
MARMÉRO
ARAGON
COSMORALIA
DEID
EAST
PIORIER
ARANCHAN
RILIÉTE
BASHICÂT

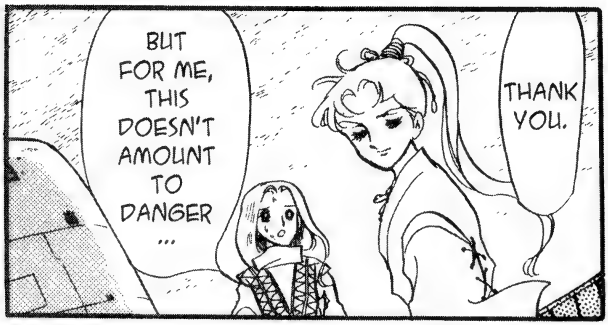
BASHICÁT CITY HARBOR
I HOPE THE SHIP I'VE READIED IS STILL OK.
I FIGURED WE COULD AVOID BORDER CONTROL IF WE ESCAPED BY SEA.
IT'S HARD TO TELL WITH THE HARBOR LIKE THIS.
I MADE IT LOOK LIKE A MER-CHANT SHIP ...
IT'S SAFE ...
WHAT ?!
THE SHIP'S SAFE. IT'S AT THE INLET.
JIMSA, IT'S STILL FAR AHEAD. HOW CAN YOU SEE IT FROM HERE?
DOES THIS CHILD SEE IT?

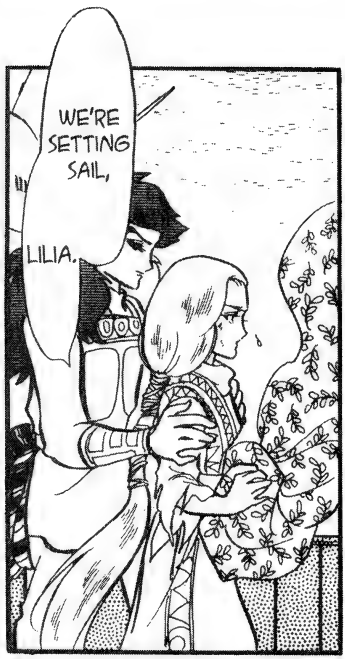

THERE IT IS— AND NOT A SINGLE HIT!
AH!
IS HE CLAIR-VOYANT? PSYCHIC?
KILLED BY GAS.
HOW CRUEL!
ALL THE TOWNS-PEOPLE, TOO?
GOOD THING WE GOT HERE AFTER THE GAS DISSI-PATED.
LET'S SET SAIL AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!

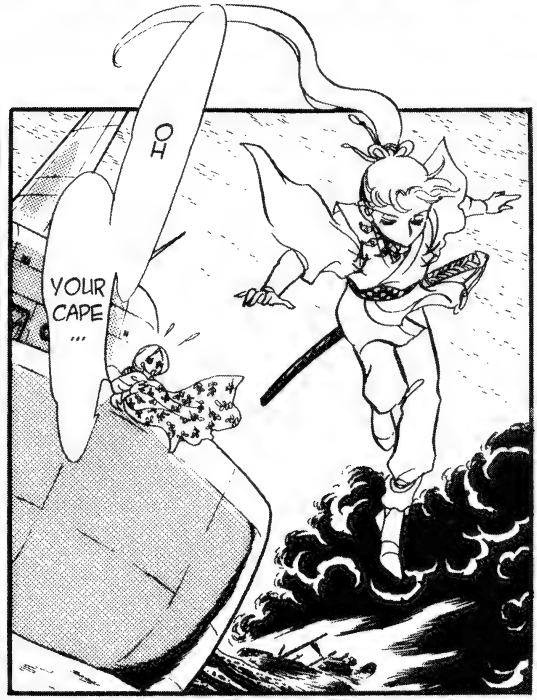
PLEASE, COME WITH US TO AYODOYA!
TO THAT HORROR ?

I HAVE IMPORTANT WORK LEFT IN ARANCHAN. I MUST RETURN.


WAIT!
AREN'T YOU COMING WITH US?

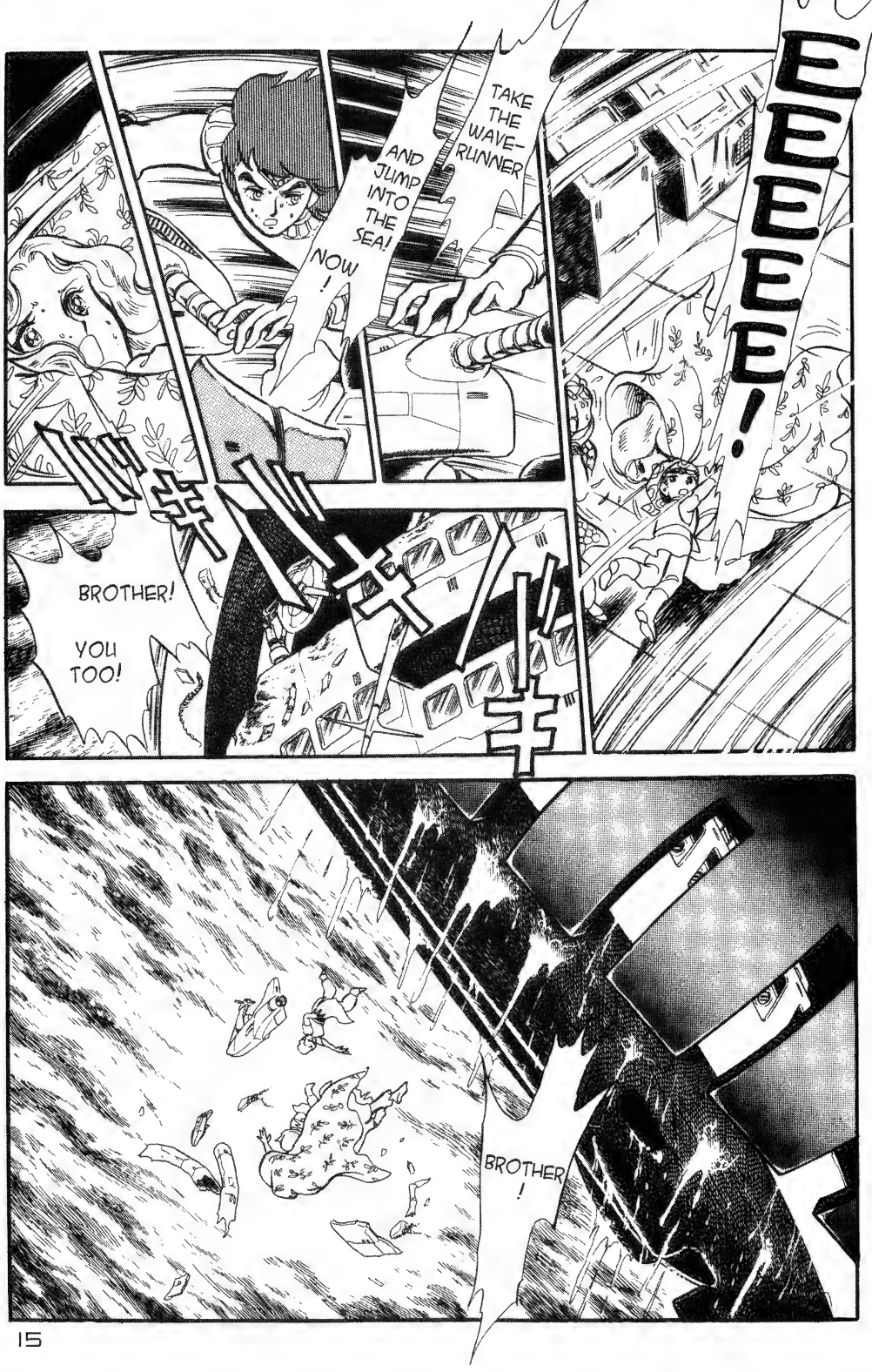

BUT FOR ME, THIS DOESN'T AMOUNT TO DANGER ...
THANK YOU.


WE'RE SETTING SAIL, LILIA.

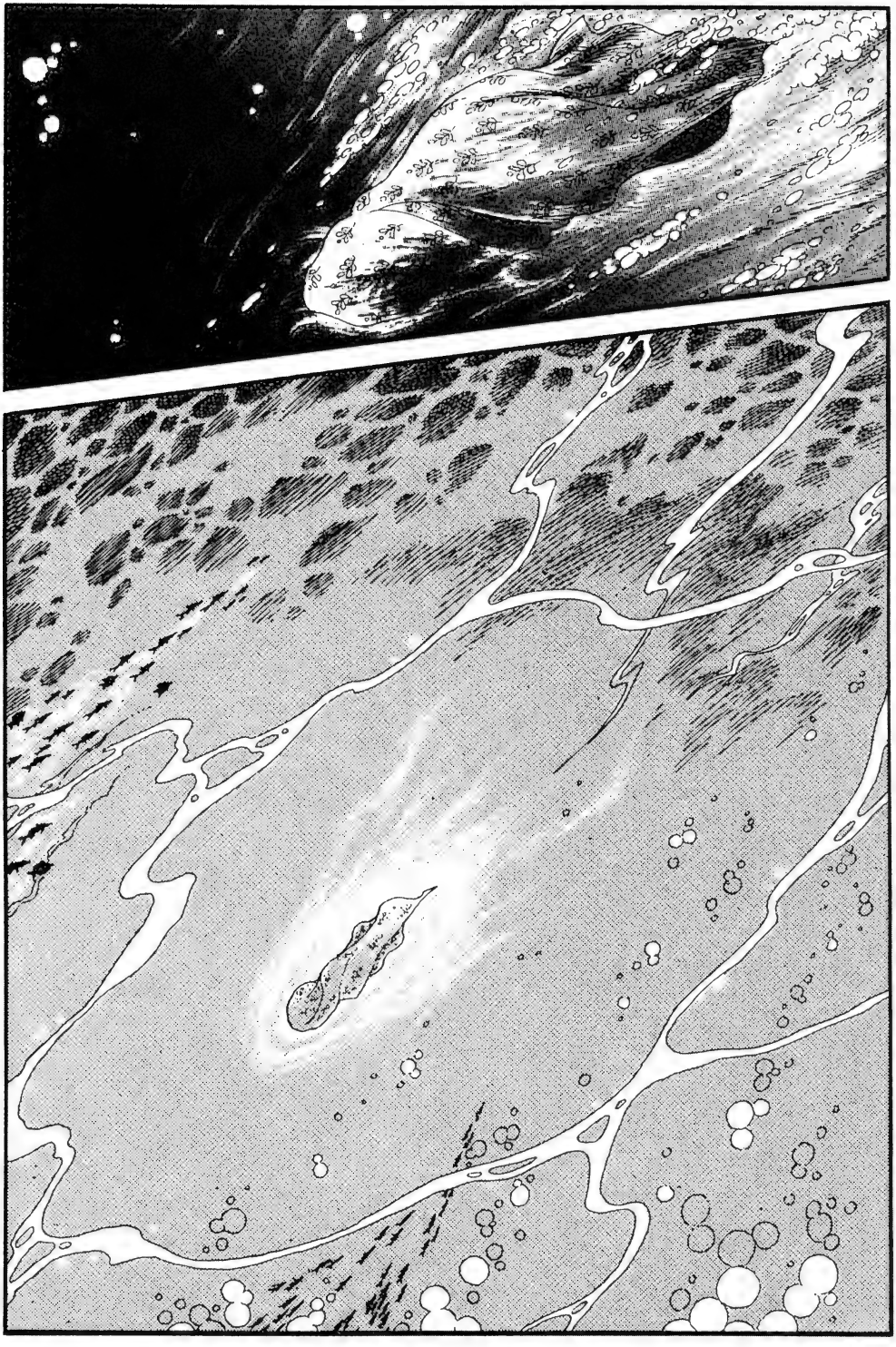

OH
YOUR CAPE ...

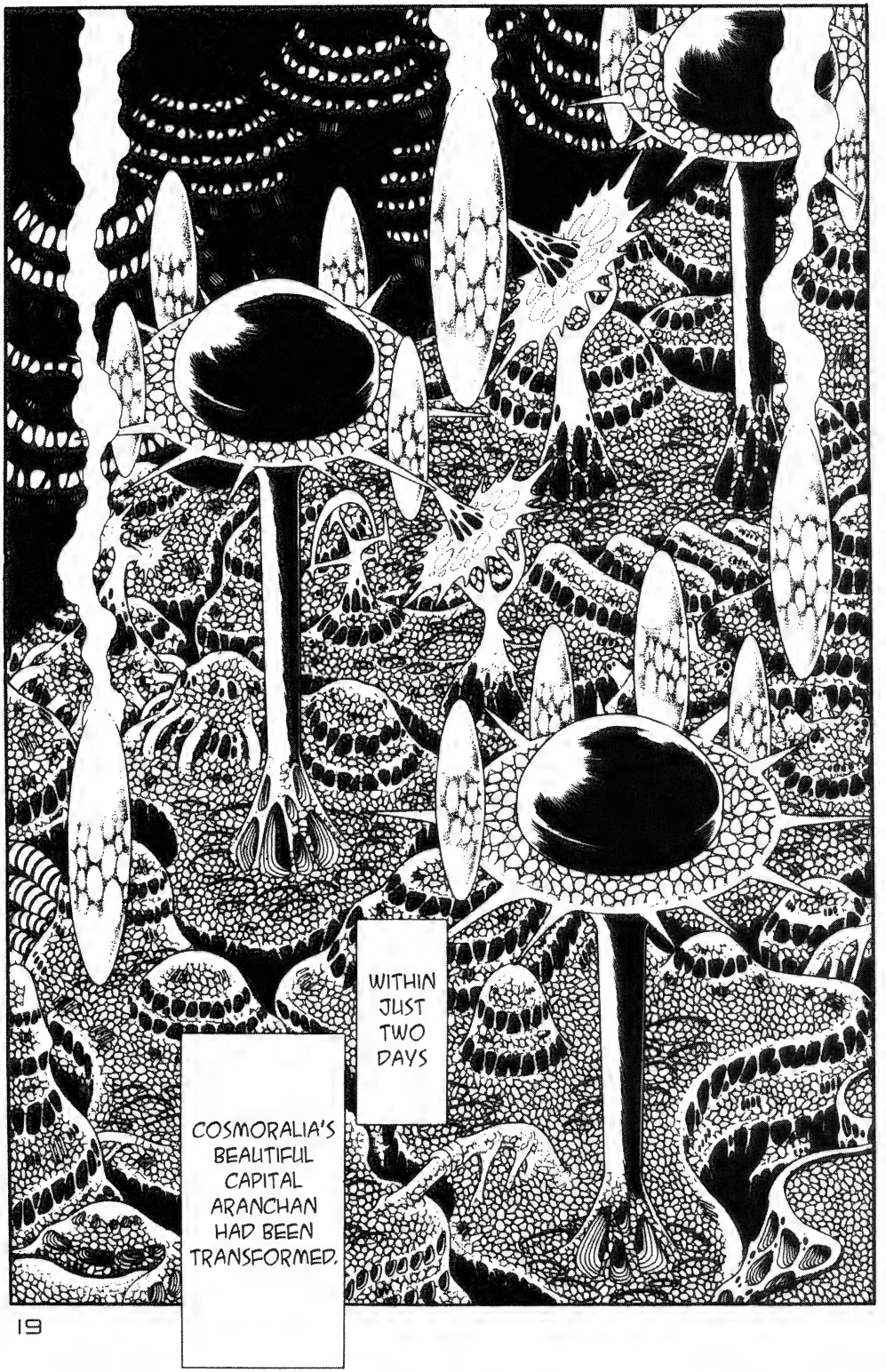
WON'T BE LONG, LILIA.
ONCE WE'VE LEFT BASHICÁT, WE'RE HALFWAY THERE.
WE'LL RETURN TO OUR DEAR AYODOYA SOON!
THE GAUGES ARE OFF.
IT'S FOGGY... THE SKY'S DARK.

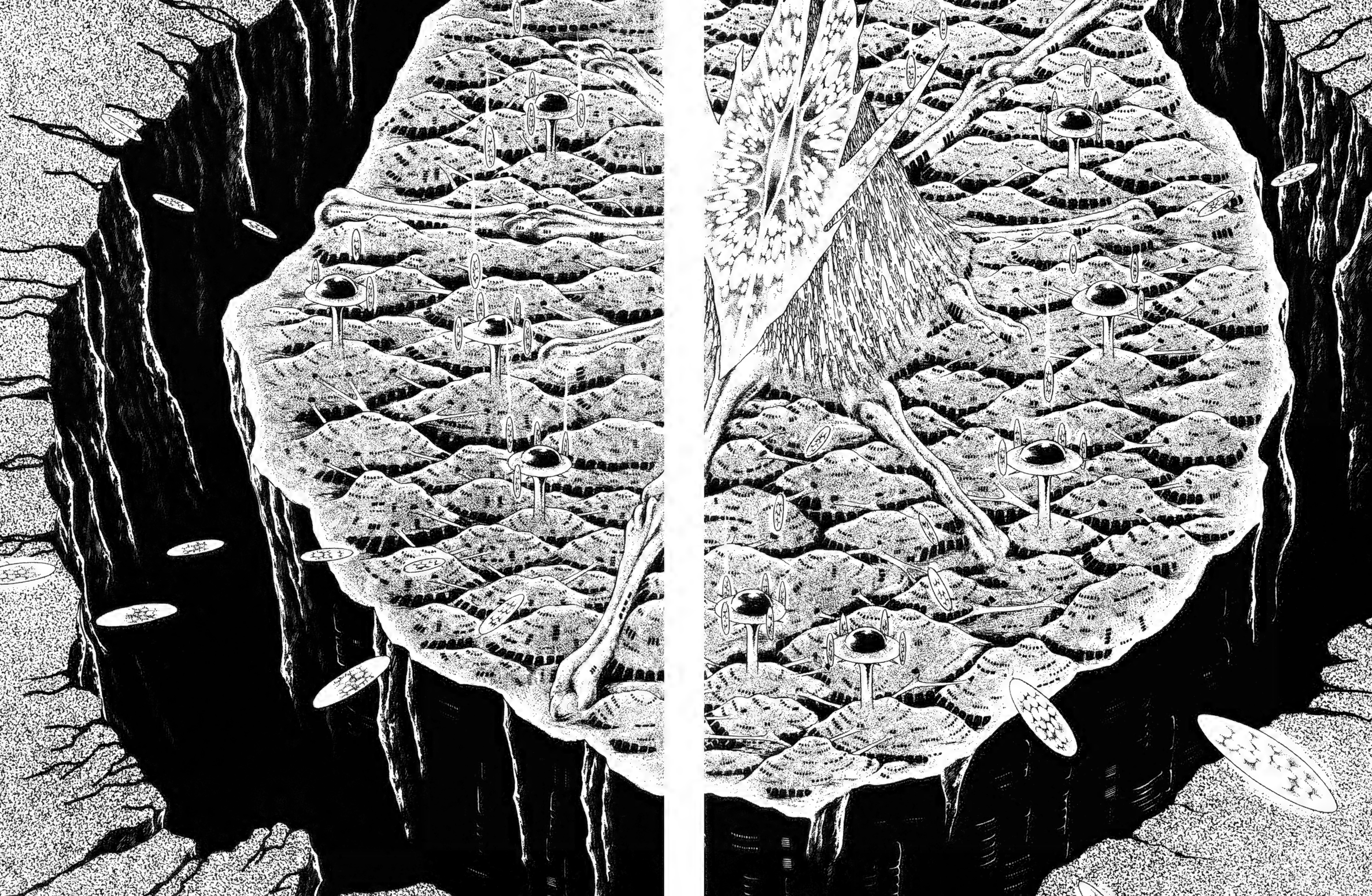
THERE'S A WAVERUNNER AND AN AIR TANK BELOW. YOU AND TARAMA PROTECT PRINCE JIMSA.
SOME-THING'S WRONG! LILIA, GET INSIDE!
WH... WHAT?
PUT IT ON!
HURRY
THIS? WHY, JIMSA?
MOM, PUT THAT ON!
AAARGH!
ABOVE YOU, PRINCE MILAN!

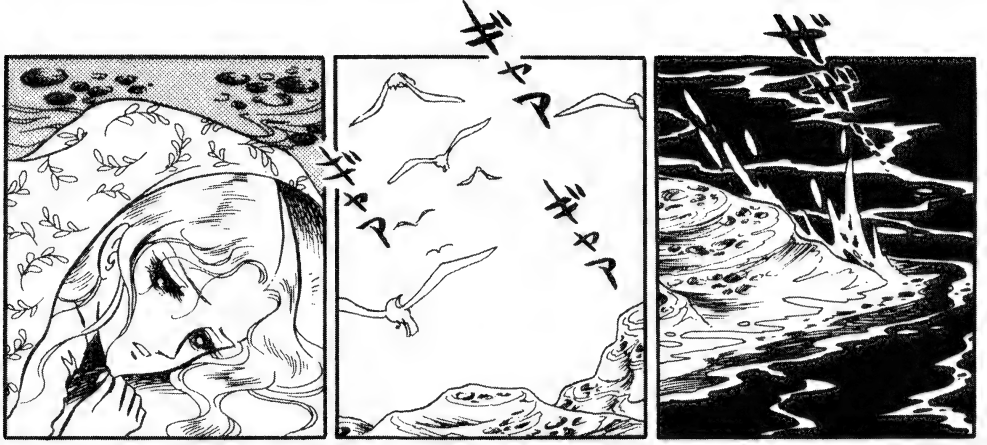

TAKE THE WAVE-RUNNER
AND JUMP INTO THE SEA!
NOW!
EEEEEE!
BROTHER!
YOU TOO!
BROTHER!

AGH!
LI...
LI...
A




WITHIN JUST TWO DAYS
COSMORALIA'S BEAUTIFUL CAPITAL ARANCHAN HAD BEEN TRANSFORMED.

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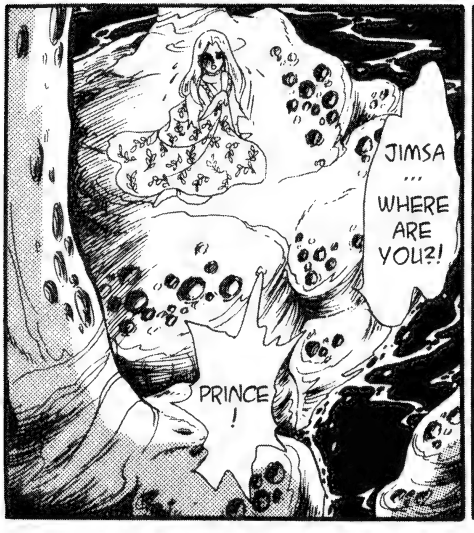
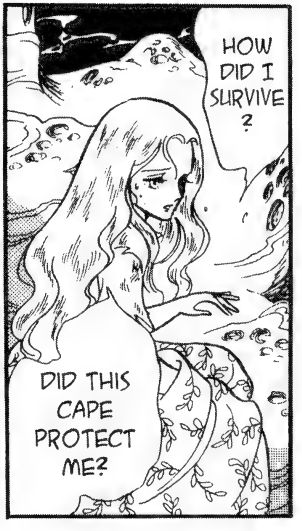

JIMSA ... WHERE ARE YOU?!
PRINCE !


HOW DID I SURVIVE ?
DID THIS CAPE PROTECT ME?

MOM
OH ...
THANK GOOD-NESS!!
THOUGH YOU LIKELY GOT A FISHERMAN TO SPARE THEM FOR ME.
JIMSA ...
I CAN'T EAT THOSE...

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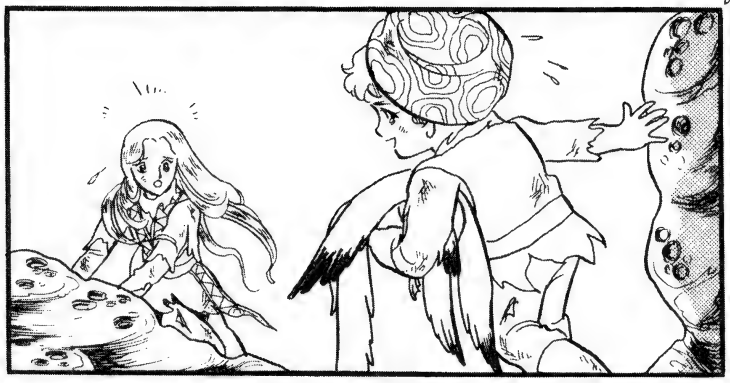
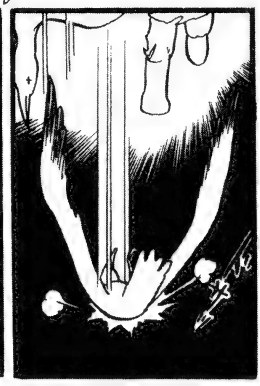
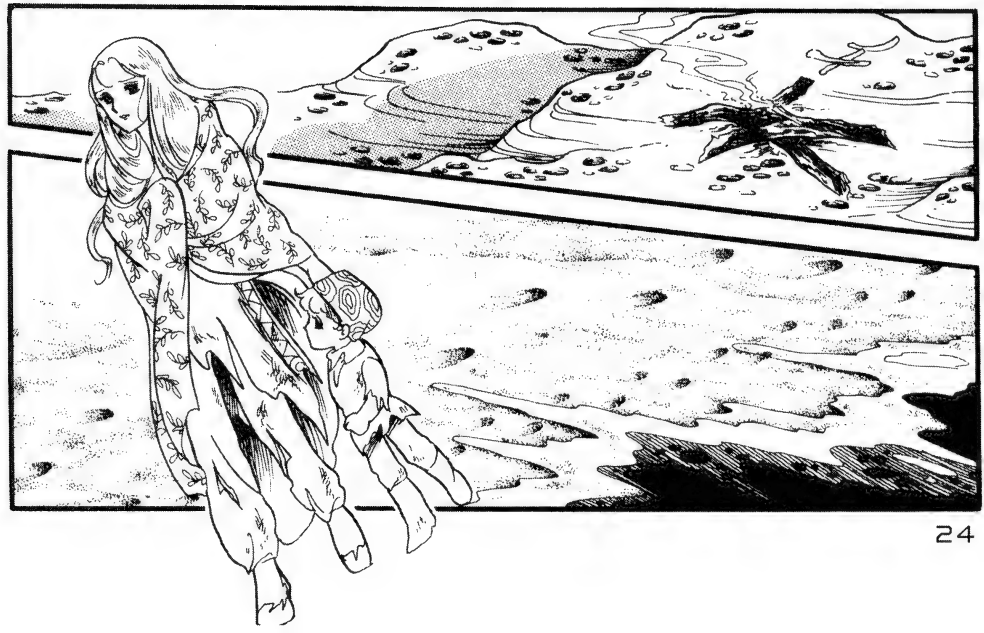
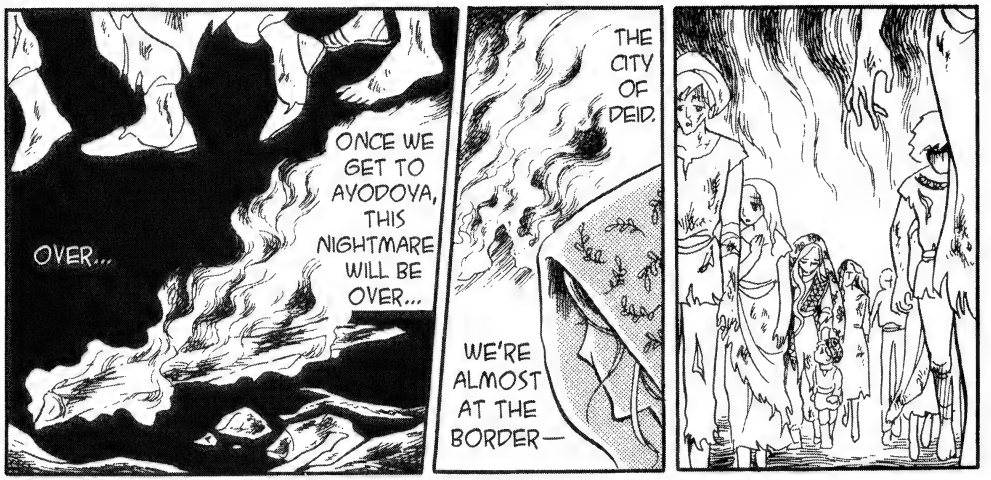
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, JIMSA!
PLEASE DON'T STRAY FROM MOMMY.







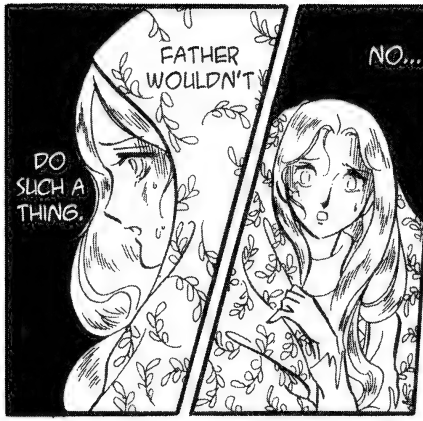

OVER...
ONCE WE GET TO AYODOYA, THIS NIGHTMARE WILL BE OVER...
THE CITY OF DEID.
WE'RE ALMOST AT THE BORDER—

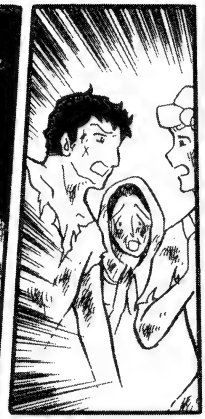
...
DON'T GO! YOU'LL BE...
KILLED!
DON'T GO THAT WAY!

MOM...

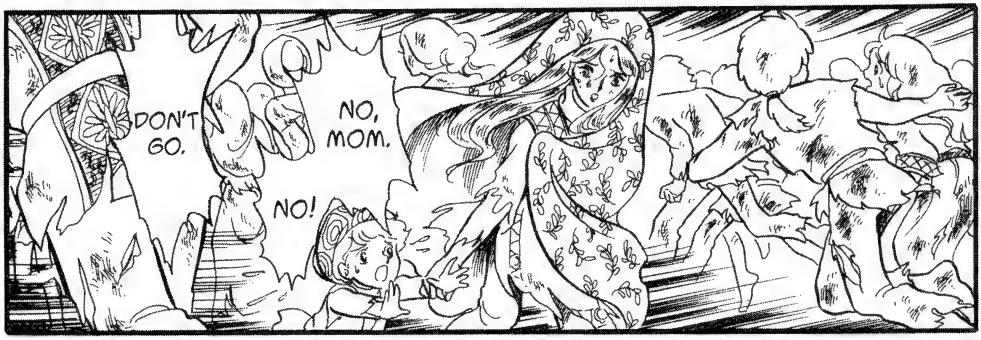
WHAT IS IT, JIMSA?
WALK STEADY NOW.
DON'T GO...

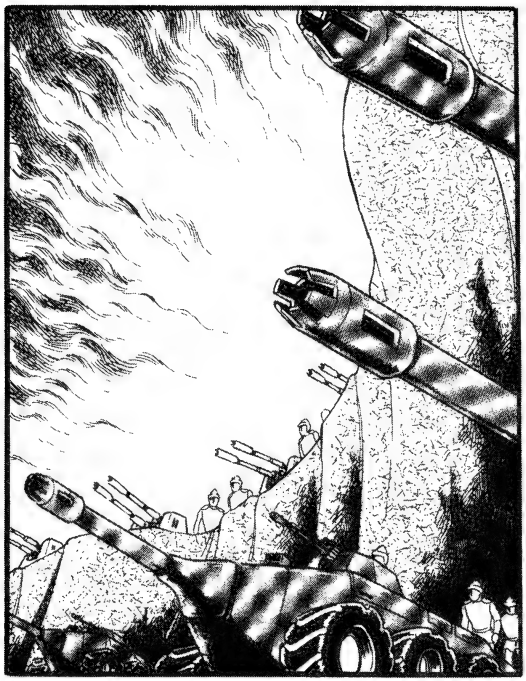
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? WE'VE NOWHERE TO GO NOW
BUT AYO-DOYA...


FATHER WOULDN'T DO SUCH A THING.
NO...



AYODOYA'S SHUT OUT REFUGEES!
GO THERE AND YOU'LL BE KILLED!


DON'T GO.
NO, MOM.
NO!



AYO-DOYANS WOULD KNOW ME.
THEY'D RECOG-NIZE ME.

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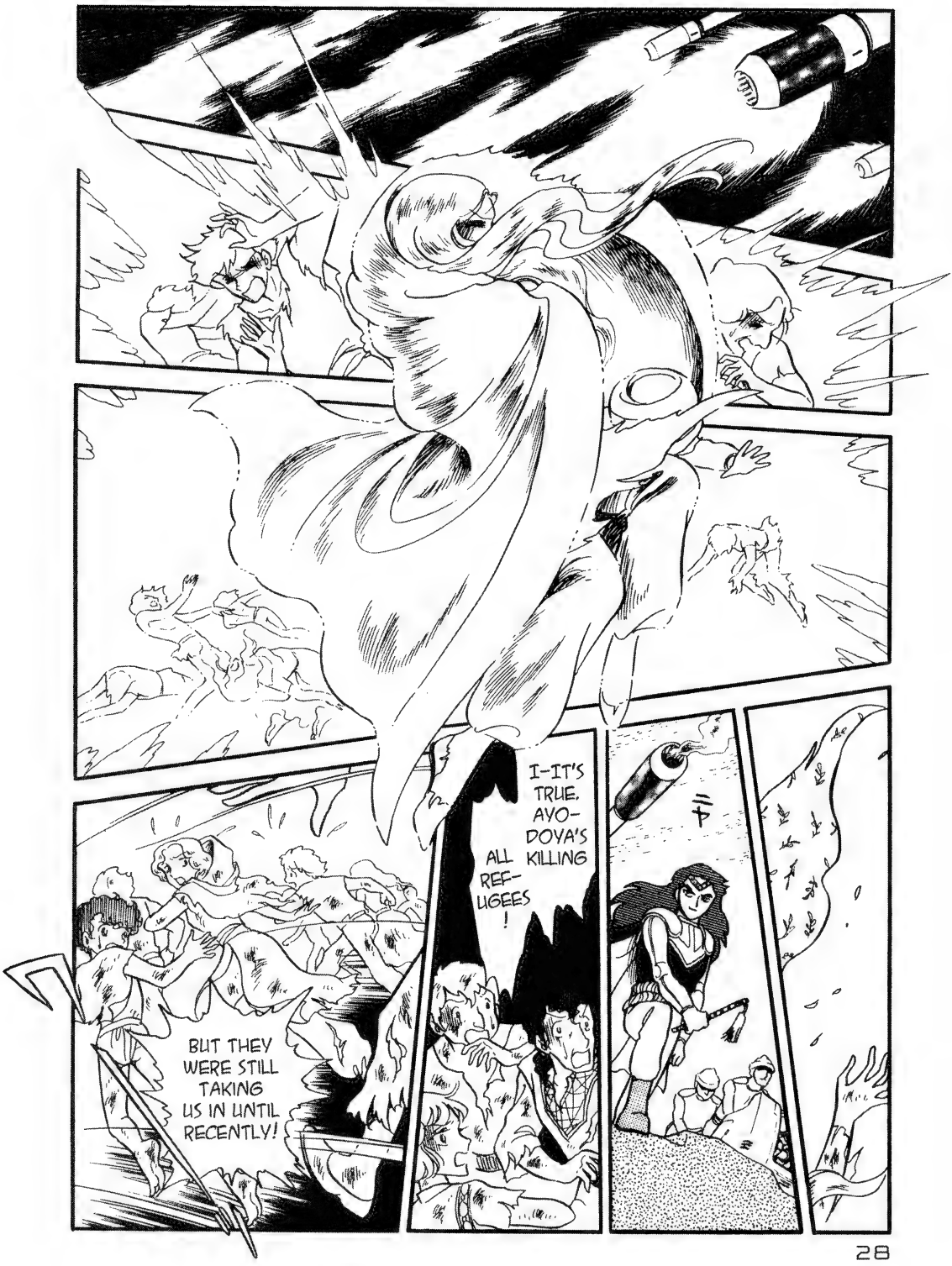
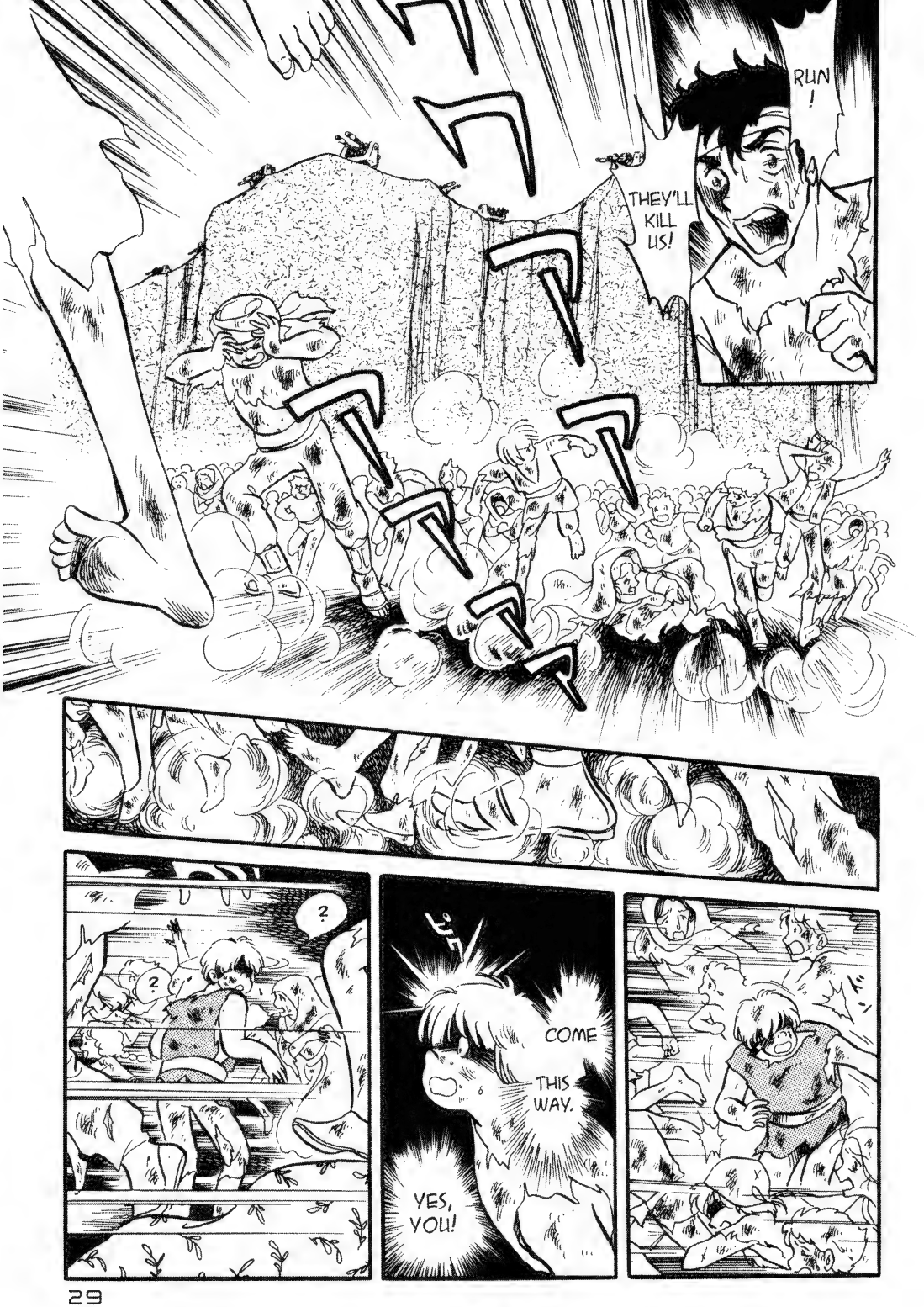
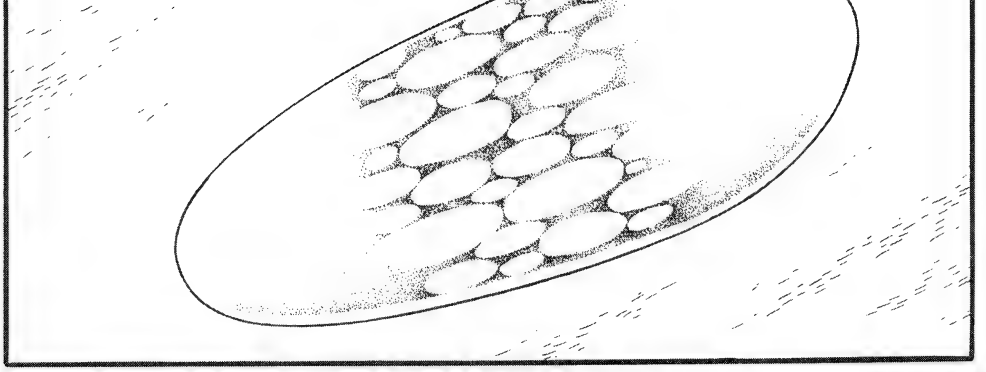
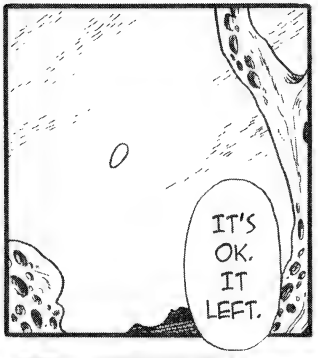
MOM.
NO!
AAAH!

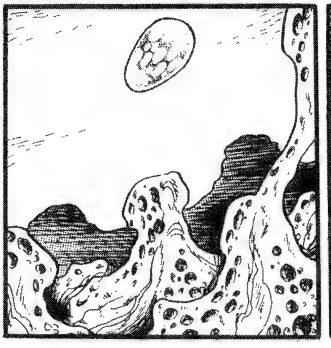
THEN WHO IS THAT?
BROTHER AND OUR SHIP WERE ENGULFED BY THAT MACHINE.
BROTHER?
AH ...
OH ...
THAT'S NOT PRINCE MILAN!
AN IMPOSTER!
FIRE !!


BUT THEY WERE STILL TAKING US IN UNTIL RECENTLY!
I-IT'S TRUE. AYO-DOYA'S KILLING ALL REF-UGEES!


RUN!
THEY'LL KILL US!
?
?
COME THIS WAY.
YES, YOU!




IT'S OK. IT LEFT.



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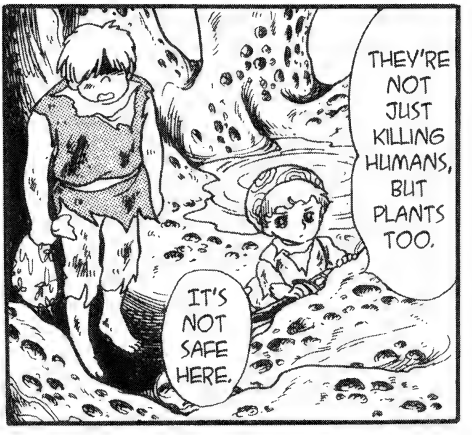
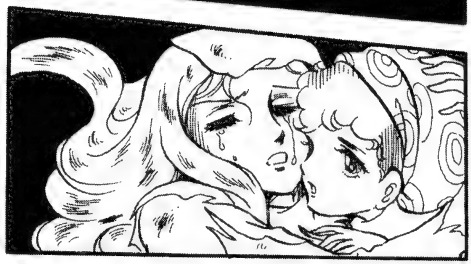
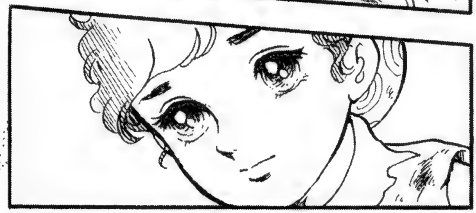
LET'S GO CHECK ON MOM.

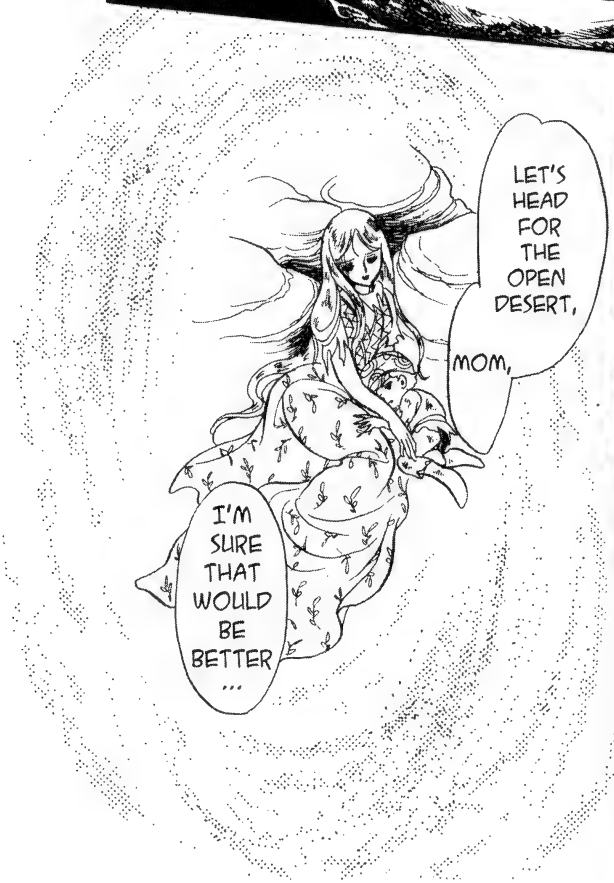

THEY'RE NOT JUST KILLING HUMANS, BUT PLANTS TOO.
IT'S NOT SAFE HERE.

MOM ...
YOU'RE NOT HURT...
THIS CAPE PRO-TECTED US.
THIS PERSON CARRIED YOU, MOM.

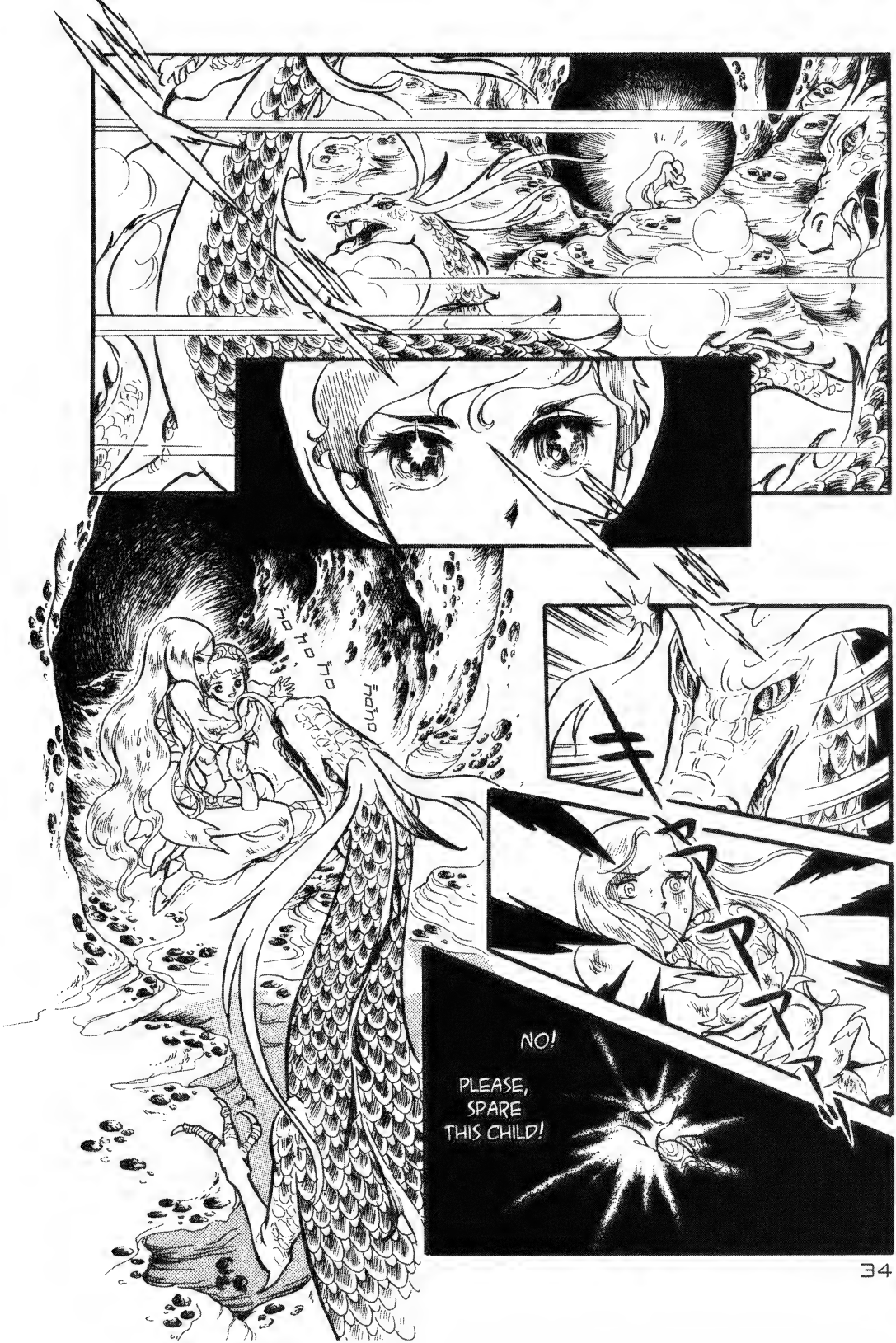


WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
HOW DO WE... SURVIVE ?




LET'S HEAD FOR THE OPEN DESERT, MOM,
I'M SURE THAT WOULD BE BETTER ...

THAT'S WHAT I THINK.
THE DESERT?
THERE ARE BEASTS IN THE DESERT.
HOW WOULD WE PROTECT OURSELVES
WITHOUT
WEAPONS OR GUARDS?
DRAGONS ARE COMING THIS WAY!
JIMSA!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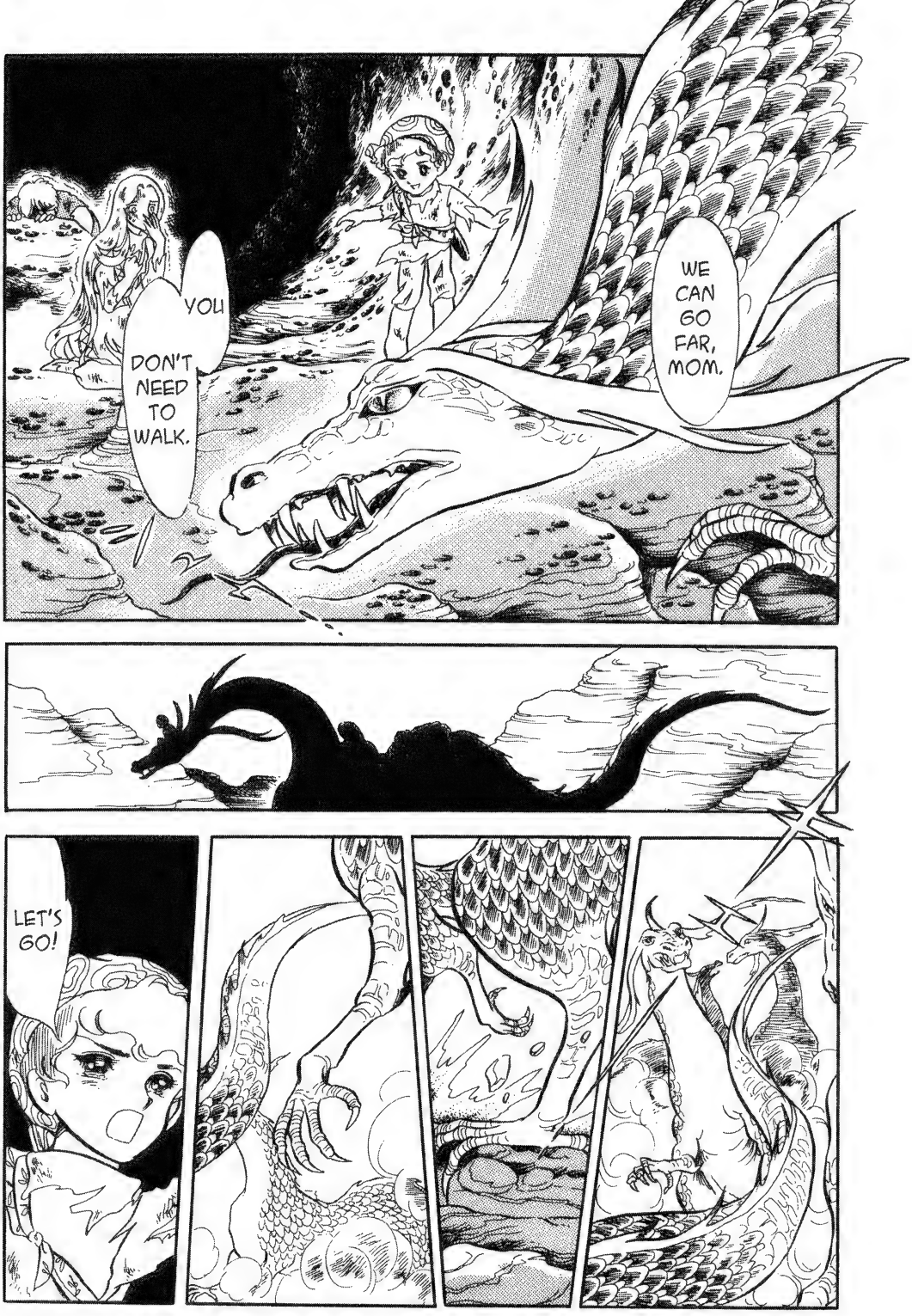
NO!
PLEASE, SPARE THIS CHILD!


YOU DON'T NEED TO WALK.
WE CAN GO FAR, MOM.
LET'S GO!

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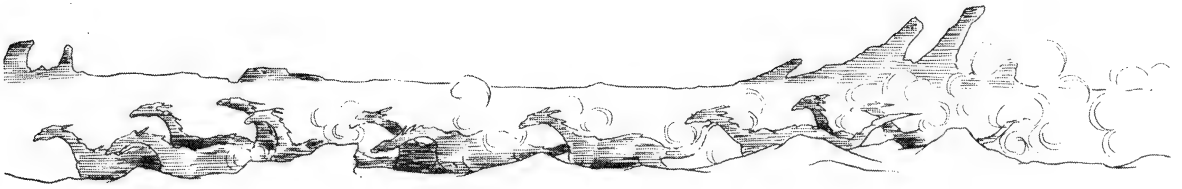
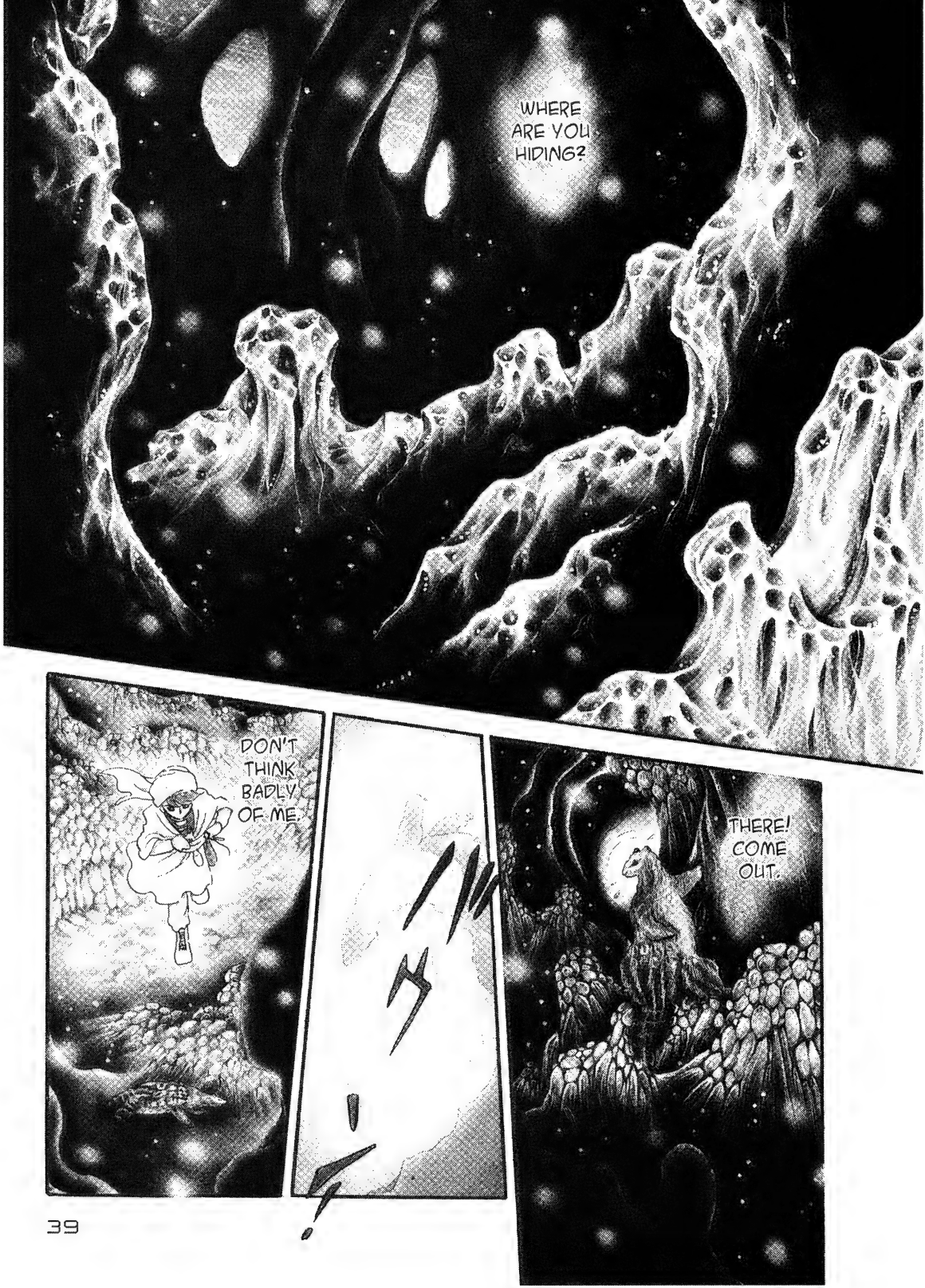
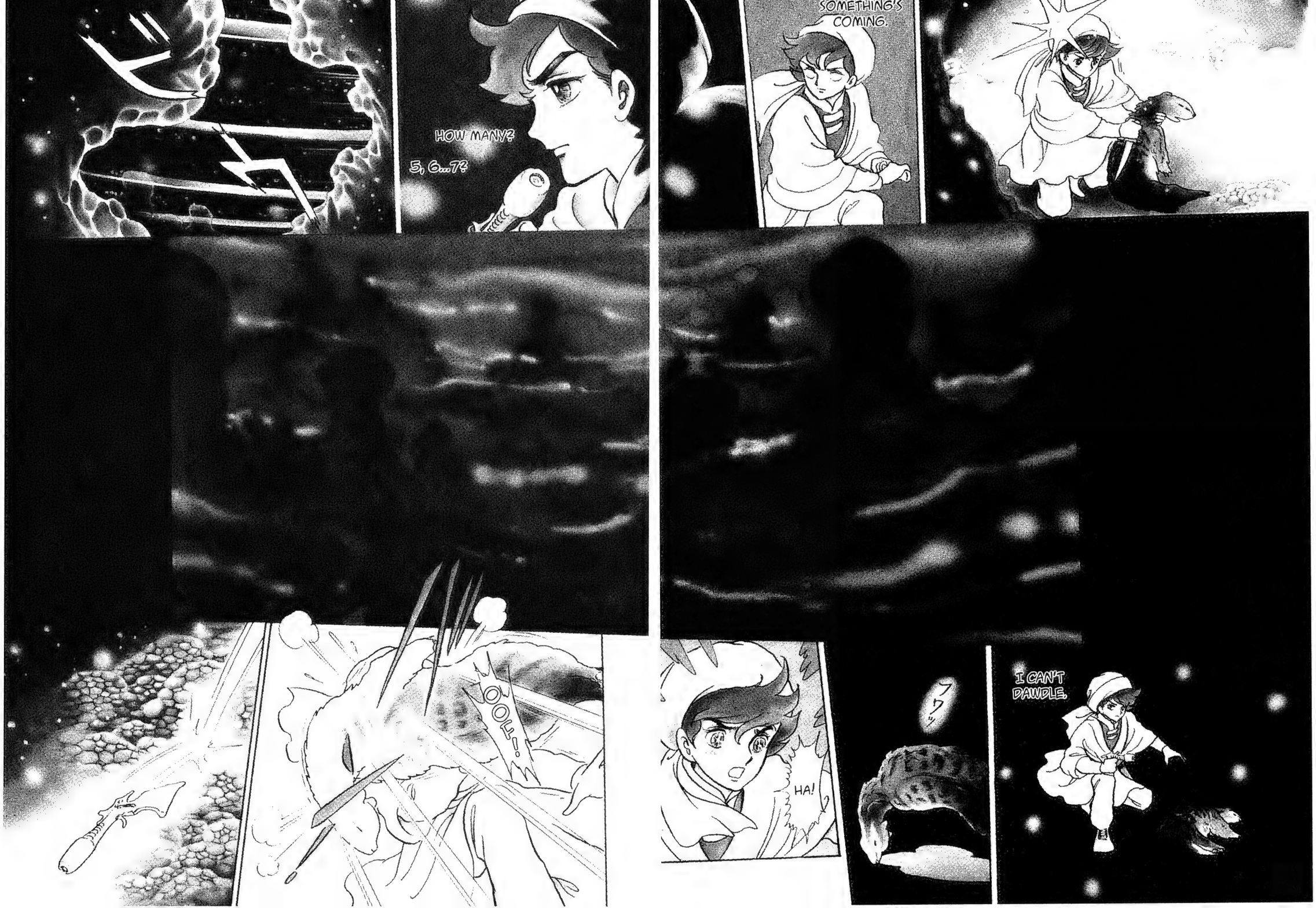
FOR SURE!

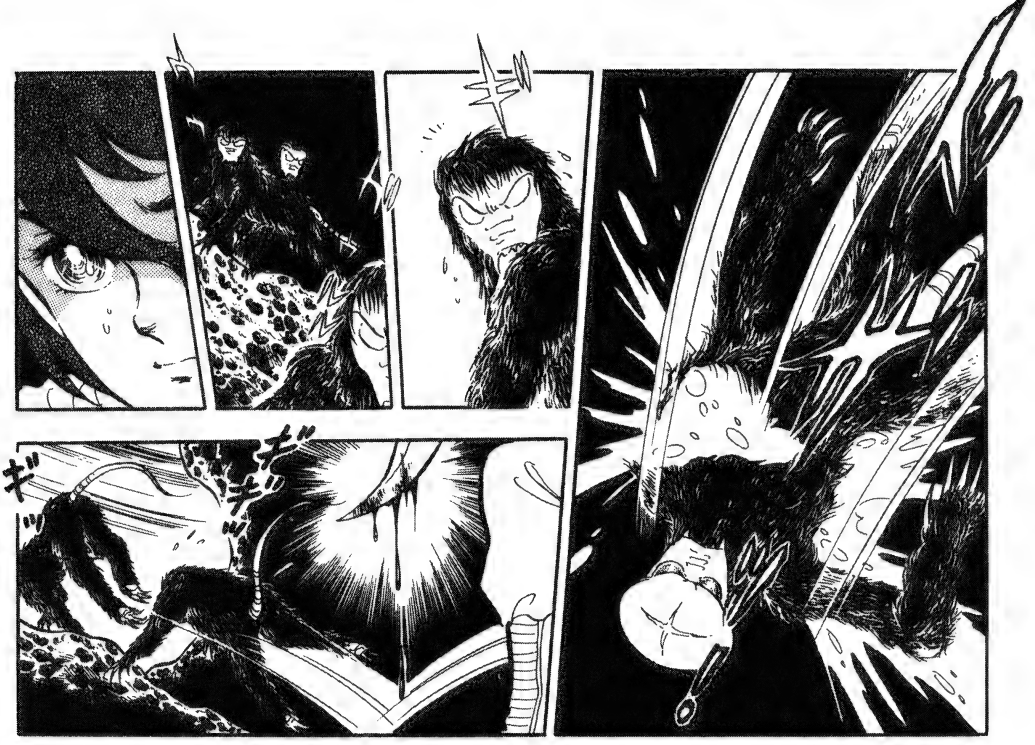


THAT WAS THE 3RD DAY AFTER COSMORALIA'S TAKEOVER.


WHERE ARE YOU HIDING?
DON'T THINK BADLY OF ME.
THERE! COME OUT.

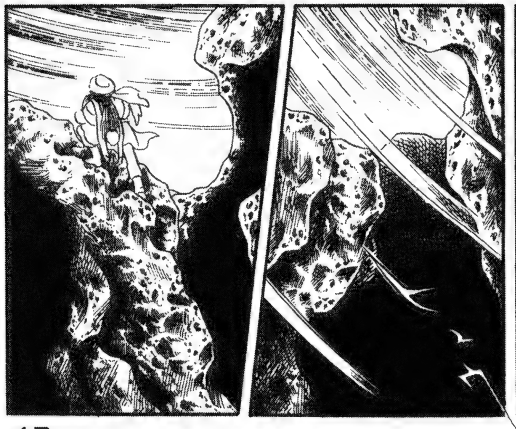

HOW MANY?
5, 6...7?
SOMETHING'S COMING.
I CAN'T DAWDLE.
HA!

MM ...
A - PSYCHO-KINETIC?
HOW? TELEPATHY DOESN'T EVEN WORK ON BARBARIANS...
YAA!



A STRANGE POST-OP SCAR ON HIS HEAD.
WHO DID THIS?
THE ENEMY ?

I GUESS HE'S THE ONLY PSYCHO-KINETIC.



I'LL ASK THE OLD MAN.
HE'LL HAVE AN IDEA.

YOU'RE LATE, JIMSA.
WHY ?

NO REASON FOR YOU TO WAIT FOR ME, OLD MAN.
IS THAT SO? YET YOU OFTEN SEE ME EVEN WITHOUT SPOILS TO TRADE.

DID YOU FIGHT WITH HIM ?
WHY DO YOU ASK?
HE'S GOT A DEVICE EMBEDDED IN HIS HEAD, RIGHT? HE'S PSYCHOKINETIC, BUT WEAKLY SO.

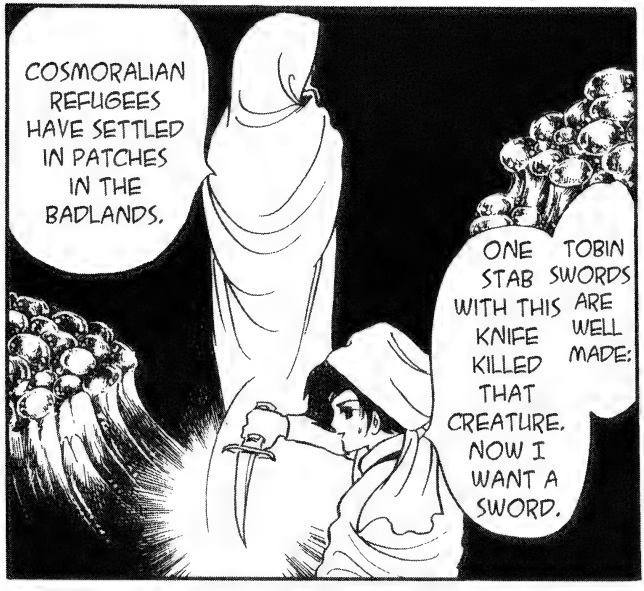
NOT TODAY! YOU SAID YOU'D PAY A HIGH PRICE FOR EPU HEART, DIDN'T YOU?

I FIGURED YOU'D BE INTERESTED IN HIM.
I ALSO HAVE A CREATURE THAT HAD HIS HEAD OPERATED ON.

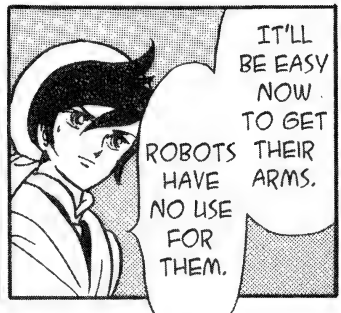
STOP!
I ONLY SELL THINGS, NOT INFORMATION!

SOME WOULD PAY A HIGH PRICE FOR THAT INFORMATION.
ACTUALLY, HE'S MY LAB RAT.
HE ESCAPED RIGHT AFTER THE OPERATION. HMM...SO HE WAS PSYCHO-KINETIC, EH?

WHAT'S THE LATEST?
I HEAR TOBIN'S BEEN INVADED BY THE ENEMY.
COSMORALIA, AYODOYA, NOW TOBIN.
SO WHAT?


COSMORALIAN REFUGEES HAVE SETTLED IN PATCHES IN THE BADLANDS.
TOBIN SWORDS ARE WELL MADE:
ONE STAB WITH THIS KNIFE KILLED THAT CREATURE. NOW I WANT A SWORD.

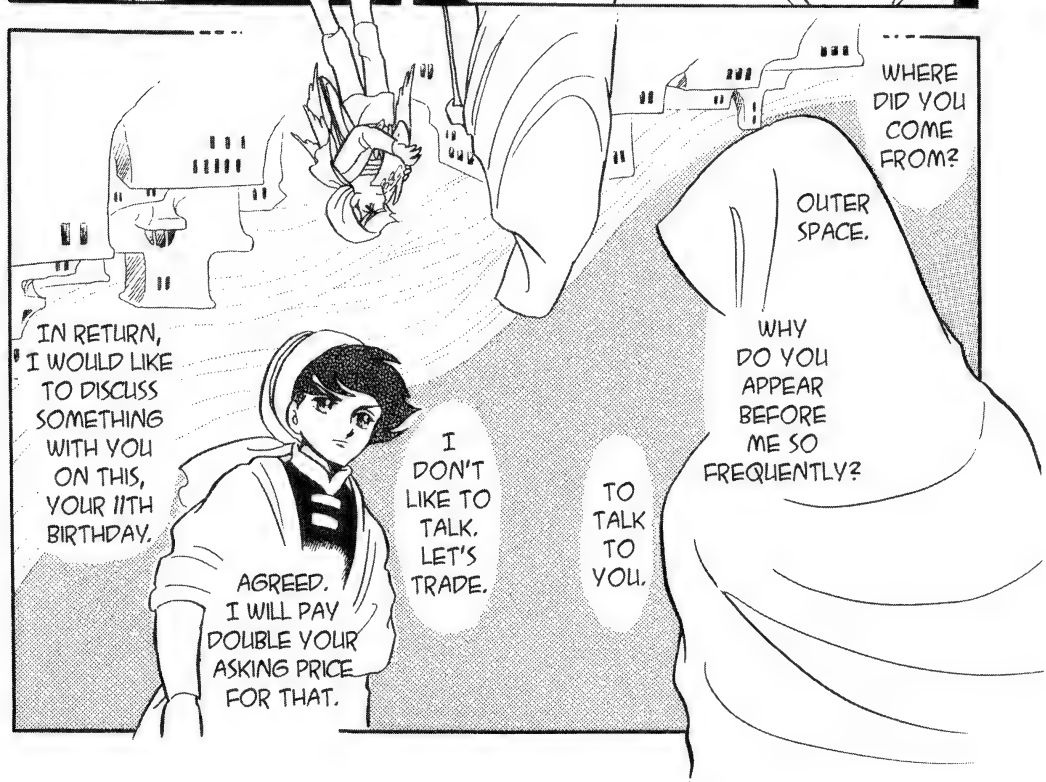
HE'S PRETTY TOUGH.

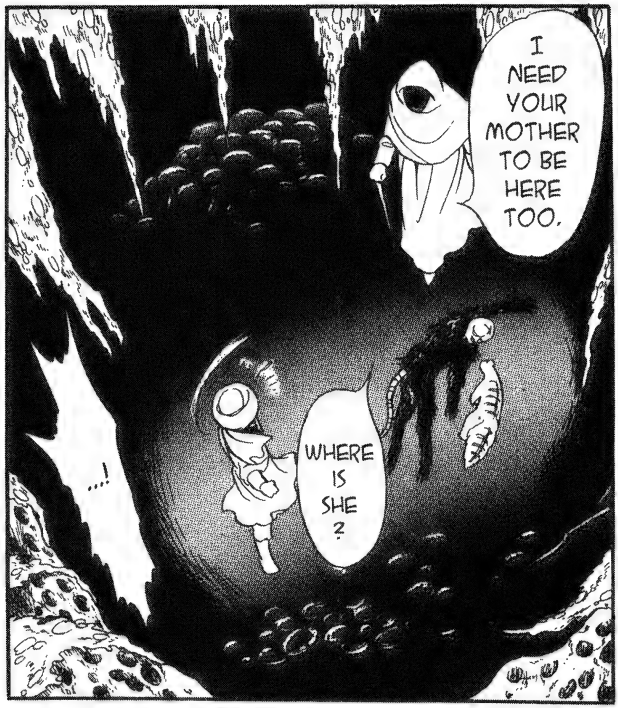

IT'LL BE EASY NOW TO GET THEIR ARMS.
ROBOTS HAVE NO USE FOR THEM.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A GOOD GRASP OF WHAT'S IMPOR-TANT.
I WAS TESTING YOU, JIMSA.

ENOUGH ALREADY!
I HEAR SOME ROYALISTS HAVE BANDED TOGETHER TO RESTORE THE LINE.

...
THAT'S WHY I CAME.
I HAVEN'T FOR-GOTTEN THAT TODAY IS THE PROMISED DAY.
DON'T BOTHER EGGING ME ON.


WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
OUTER SPACE.
WHY DO YOU APPEAR BEFORE ME SO FREQUENTLY?
TO TALK TO YOU.
I DON'T LIKE TO TALK. LET'S TRADE.
IN RETURN, I WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS SOMETHING WITH YOU ON THIS, YOUR 11TH BIRTHDAY.
AGREED. I WILL PAY DOUBLE YOUR ASKING PRICE FOR THAT.


I NEED YOUR MOTHER TO BE HERE TOO.
WHERE IS SHE?
...!

I KEPT MY WORD.
TALK.

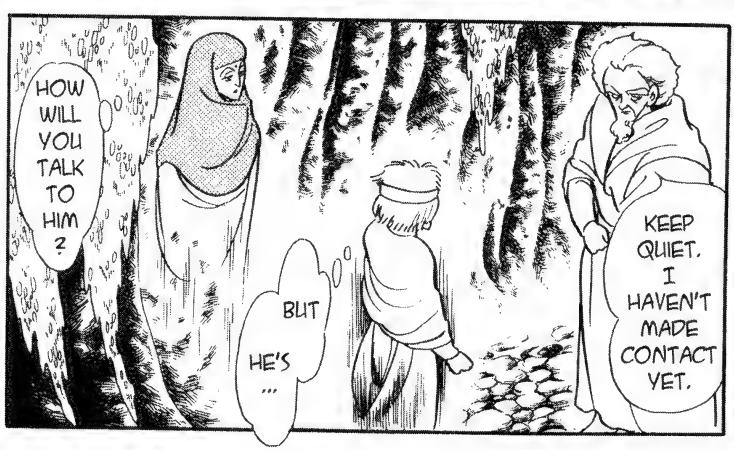
HOW DOES HE KNOW ABOUT MOM?
THOSE WEREN'T THE TERMS.
ALL YOU GET IS THE CREA-TURE.
JIMSA...
SURELY YOU MUST KNOW I AM ON YOUR SIDE!

NO!

THAT'S WHY I'VE STAYED IN CONTACT WITH YOU.
SURELY I'M MORE TO YOU THAN JUST A TRADING PARTNER?

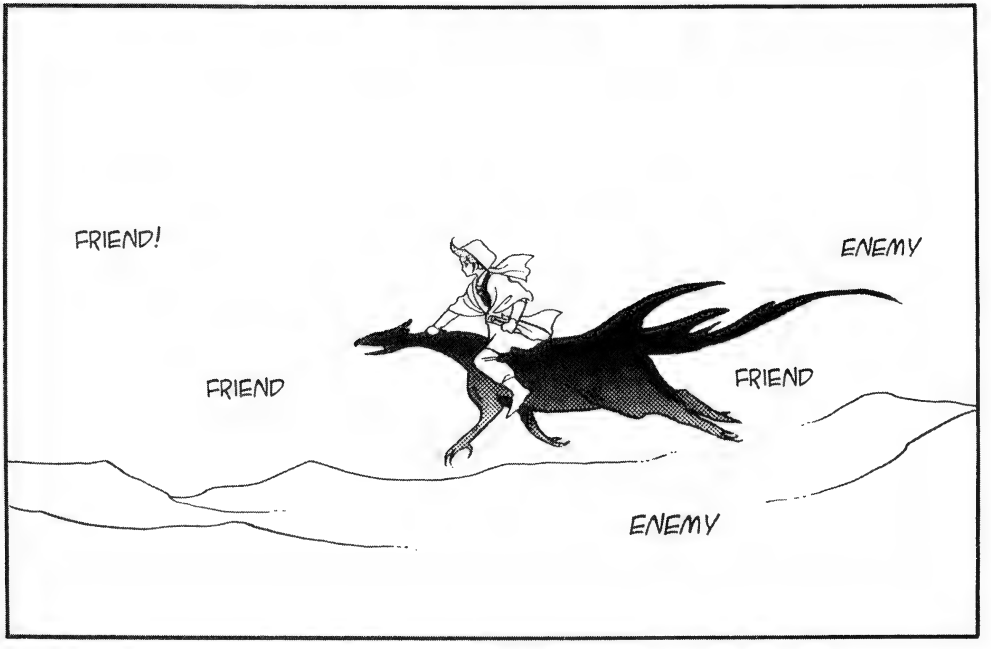
JIMSA!

ALIVE FOR THE PAST 5 CYCLES.
HIS CAUTIOUSNESS HAS KEPT HIM AND HIS MOTHER
HE'S AN IMPRESSIVE CHILD.
SO STRONG-WILLED...

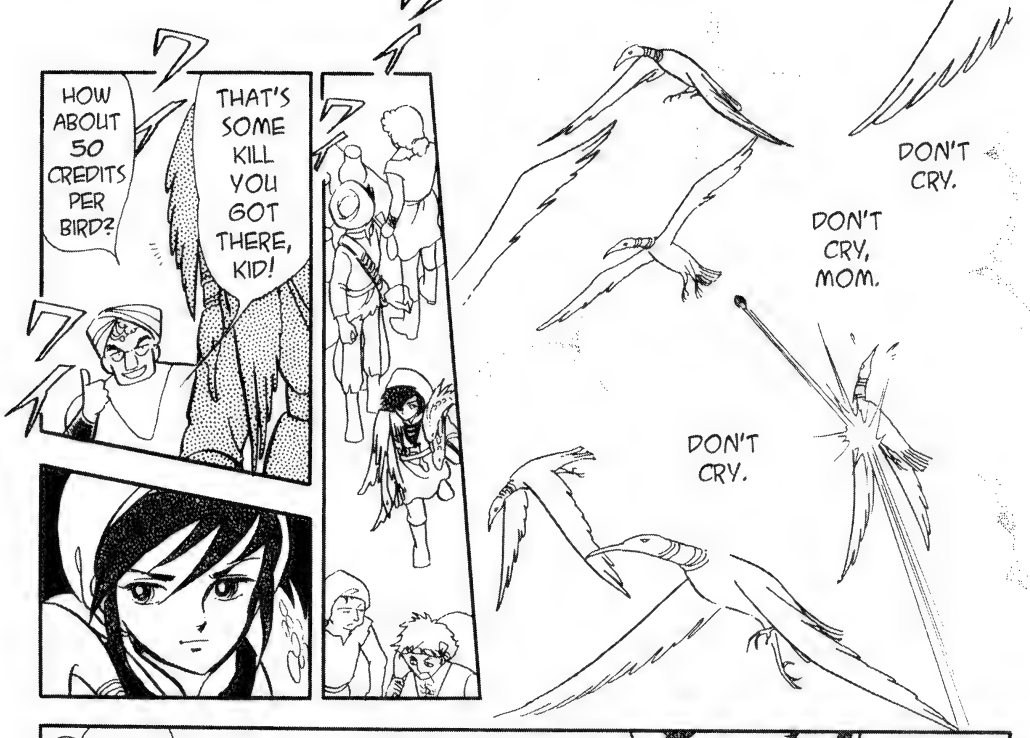

HOW WILL YOU TALK TO HIM?
BUT HE'S ...
KEEP QUIET. I HAVEN'T MADE CONTACT YET.

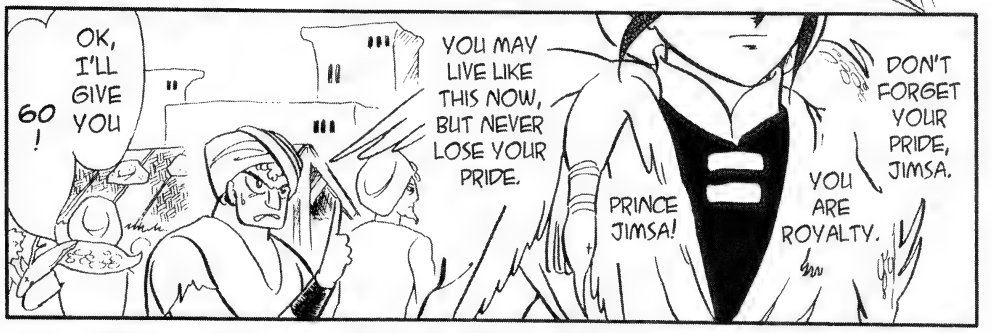
ELDER!

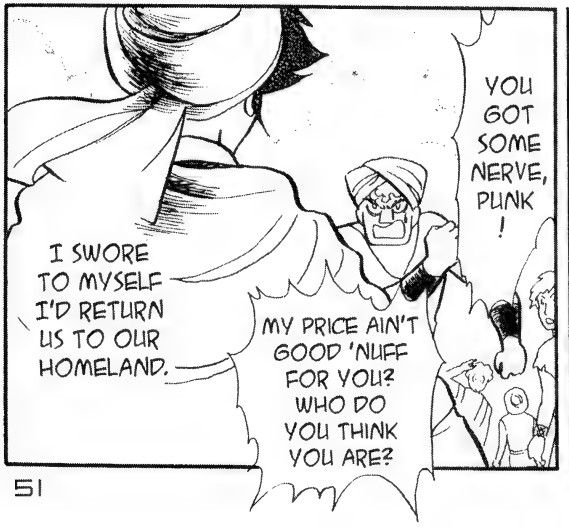
DON'T LET HIM DETECT YOU.
GO!
YES...
WE'LL WAIT. YOU TWO CONTINUE TO WATCH THEIR BACKS.
THAT WILL BE OUR CHANCE TO GET IN WITH HIM.
THE TIME IS RIPE. SOMETHING IS SURE TO SHIFT THE BALANCE.


FRIEND!
ENEMY
FRIEND
FRIEND
ENEMY

YES, MY LIFE!
HE WANTED TO MEET MY MOTHER.
MY DEAR MOM— I WON'T LET HIM!
HYAH!
I'LL KEEP HER AWAY FROM ALL HARM
EVEN IF IT COSTS ME MY LIFE!
LOOK, JIMSA. THAT'S COSMO-RALIA.
ITS CAPITAL ARANCHAN WAS CALLED A UTOPIA BEFORE THE ENEMY CAME.
YOUR FATHER WAS A KIND, KIND MAN.
I WISH I HAD DIED ALONG WITH ARANCHAN!







IT'S HARD FOR ME

TO SEE YOU LIKE THIS, MOM.

HMPH.
IN A DRIFTERS' MARKET AND GET AWAY WITH IT.
BEING A KID AIN'T GONNA SAVE HIM. YOU CAN'T MAKE FUN OF SOMEONE
80
HELP ME LYNCH THAT KID.
GET HIM!
I MADE MY OATH.
IS TO PROTECT YOU AND OUR WAY OF LIFE.
BUT THE BEST I CAN DO NOW
HOW DO WE
SLIP AWAY FROM HERE?

AARGH!
I WAITED FOR TODAY, EXPECTING SOMETHING,
TO THAT MAN.
THAT'S WHY I WAS DRAWN

BUT THE ANSWER...
IS NO!

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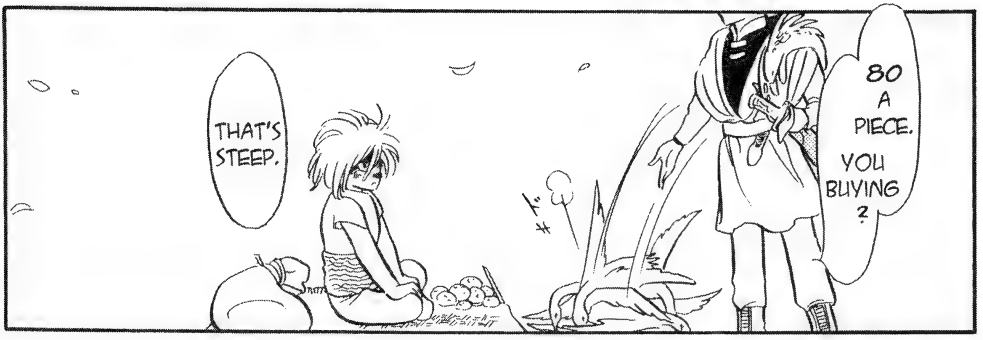
H-HOW'D HE DO THAT WITH JUST A...
DAGGER?


80 A PIECE. YOU BUYING?
THAT'S STEEP.
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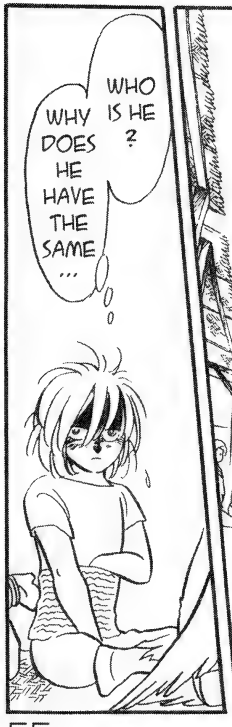
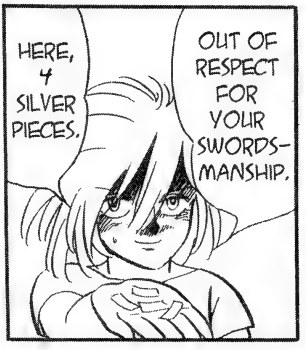
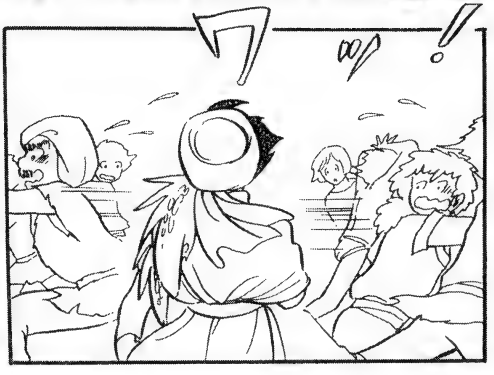

WHO IS HE?
WHY DOES HE HAVE THE SAME...

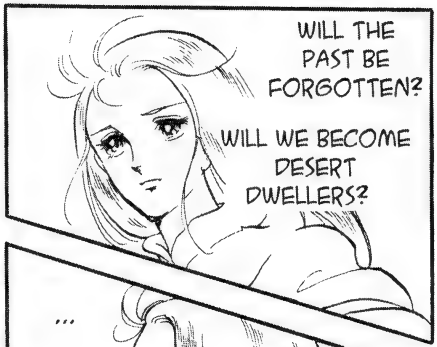

OUT OF RESPECT FOR YOUR SWORDS-MANSHIP.
HERE, 4 SILVER PIECES.

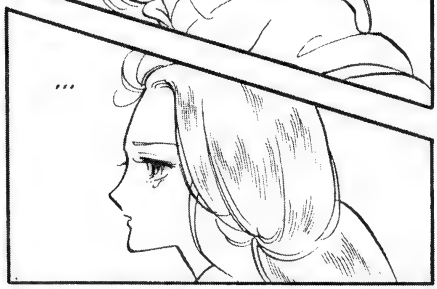

!

FFF...
IT'S NO USE.
AH... UH...
THANK YOU, MY LOYAL ROB.
JIMSA SAYS YOU CAN SEE DISTANT LANDS IN THIS CRYSTAL BALL.
OUR STORES OF FOOD SHOULD LAST A WHILE.
WHERE DID HE GO TODAY?
DELICIOUS...
HUMP MILK OF THE KUO DRAGON YOU AND JIMSA CAUGHT YESTERDAY, RIGHT?
THO' I CAN'T BUT LOOK WHEN HE'S LATE TO COME BACK.
BUT I CAN'T.

I NEVER IMAGINED WE'D BE LIVING LIKE THIS.
JIMSA WASN'T EVEN A YEAR OLD YET...

WHAT THAT CHILD IS UP TO.
I HAVE NO IDEA


WILL THE PAST BE FORGOTTEN?
WILL WE BECOME DESERT DWELLERS?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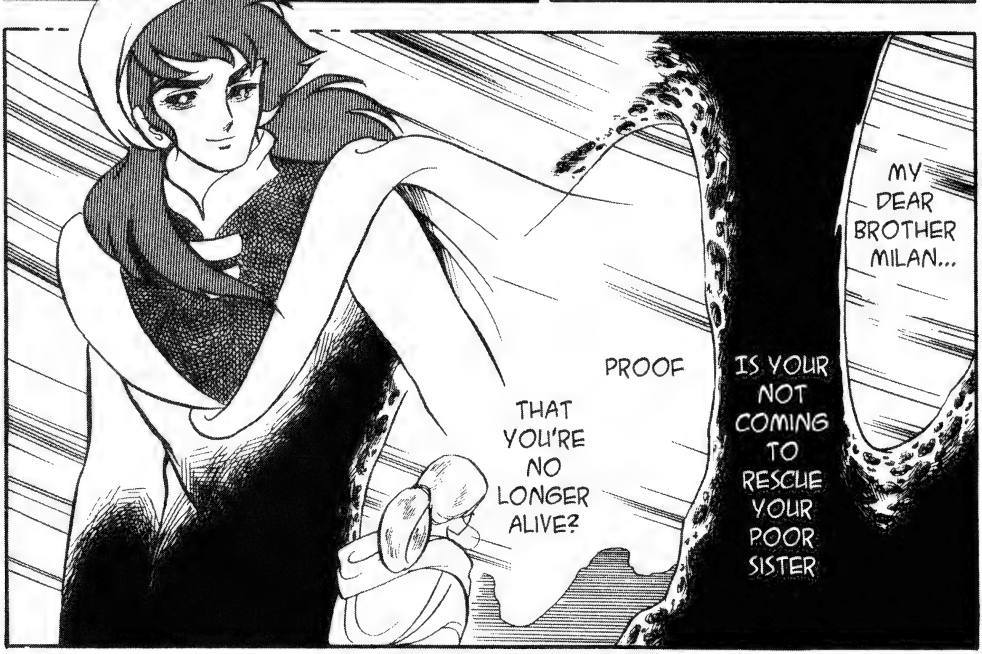
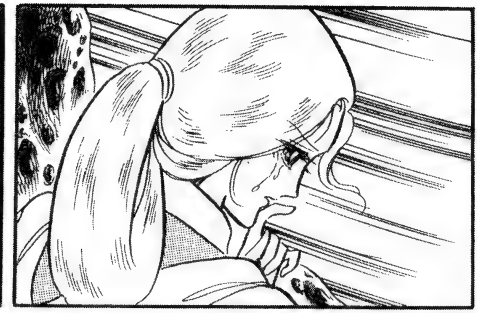
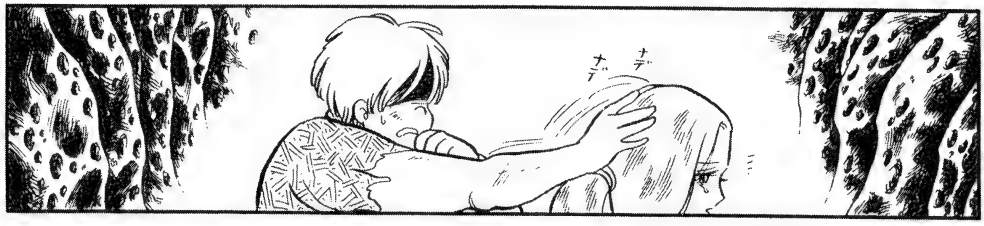

MY DEAR BROTHER MILAN...
IS YOUR NOT COMING TO RESCUE YOUR POOR SISTER
PROOF
THAT YOU'RE NO LONGER ALIVE?

ROB, PROTECT MOM.



THAT IS YOUR TASK ABOVE ALL ELSE.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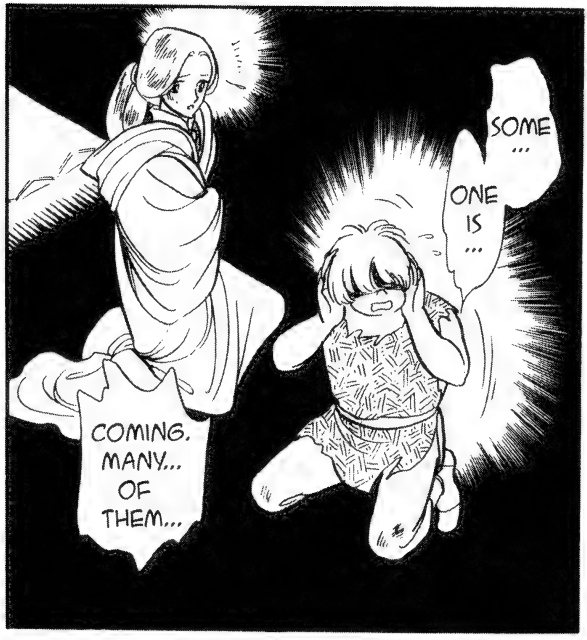
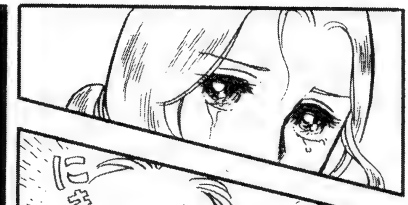
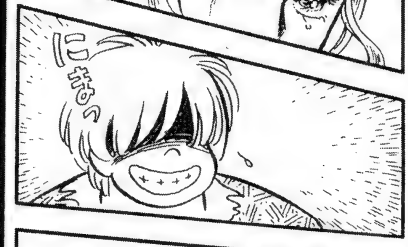

SOME...
ONE IS...
COMING. MANY... OF THEM...

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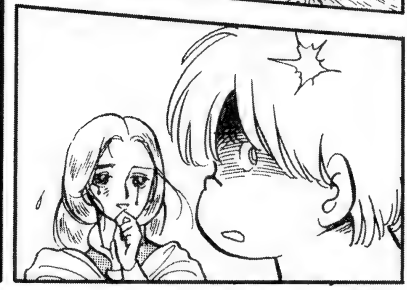
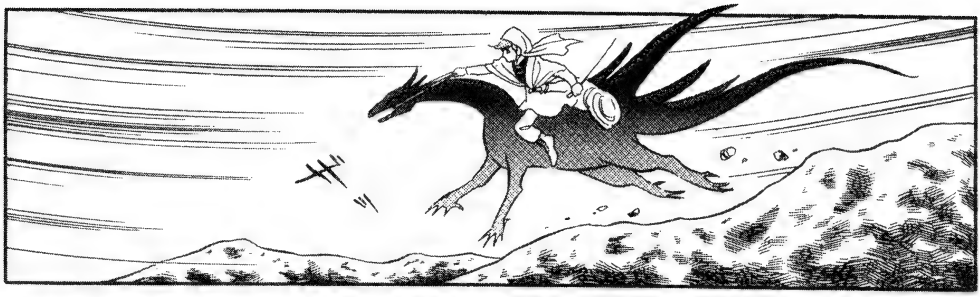
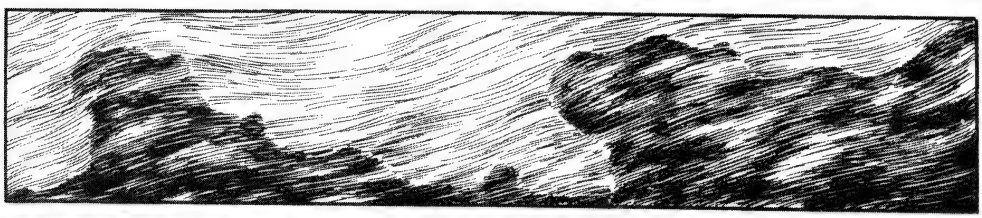
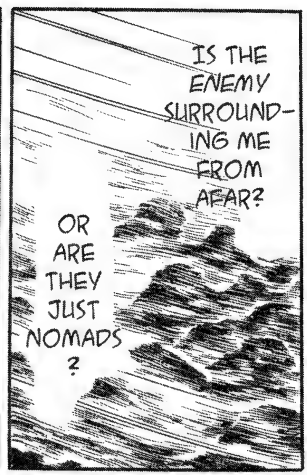


WHO IS IT?
WHO'S THERE?!

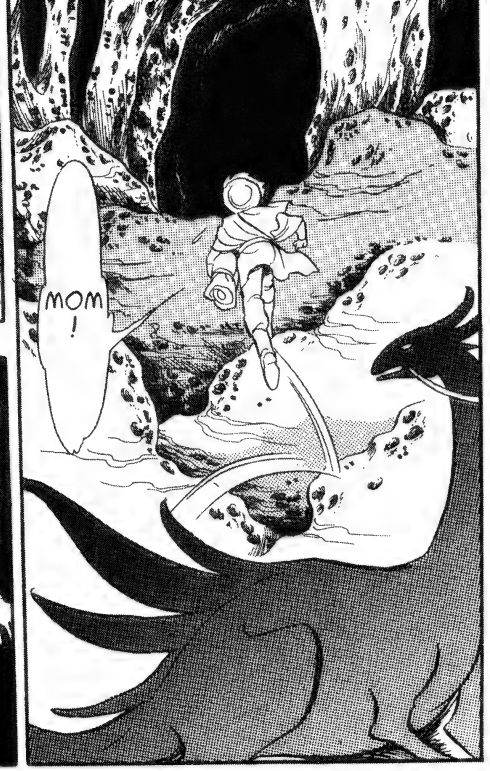




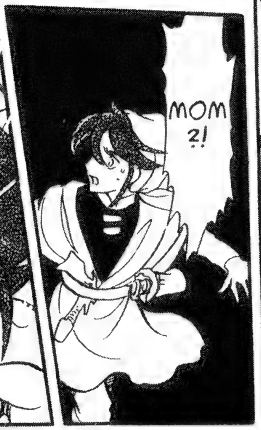

IS THE ENEMY SURROUNDING ME FROM AFAR?
OR ARE THEY JUST NOMADS?

THE CLOSER I GET TO OUR CAVERN,
THE STRONGER THE BAD FEELING BECOMES.

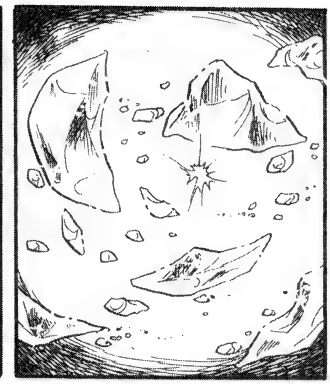
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT.

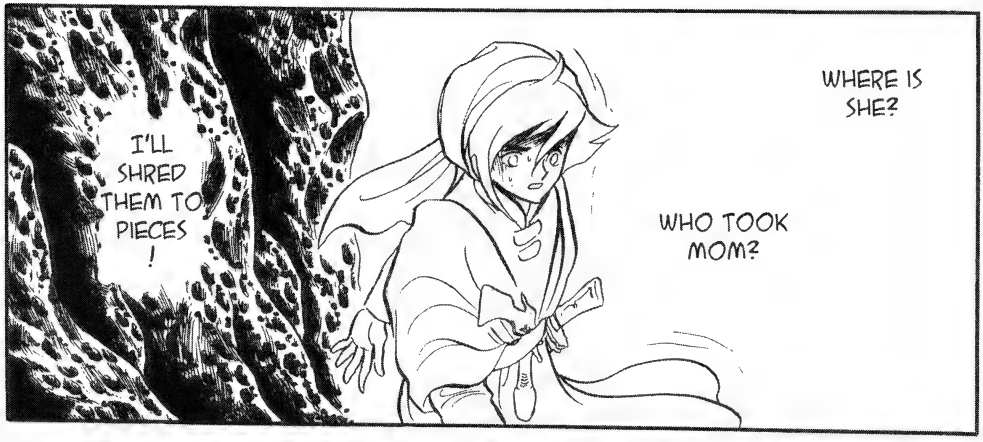

MOM!

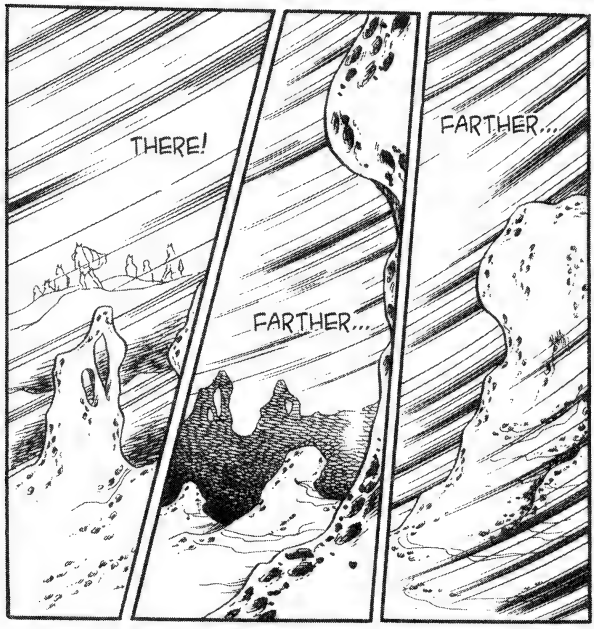
MOM...


MOM?!

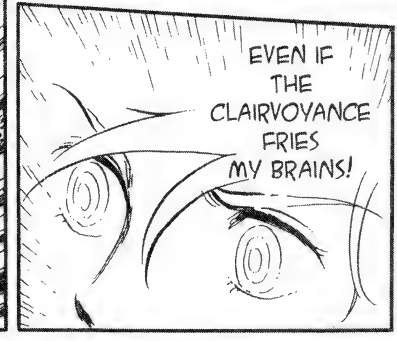
MAI

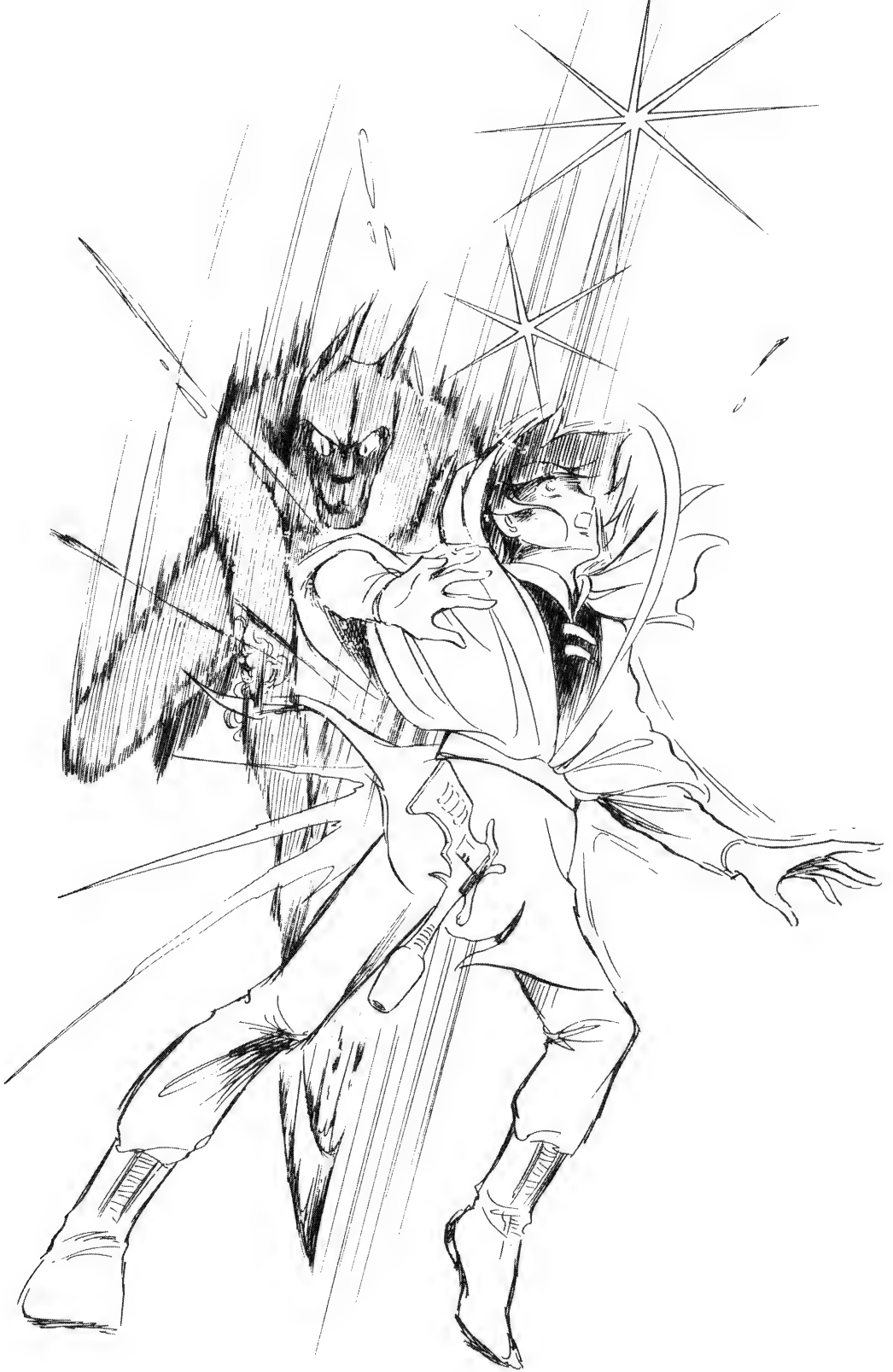



I'LL SHRED THEM TO PIECES!
WHERE IS SHE?
WHO TOOK MOM?


THERE!
FARTHER...
FARTHER...

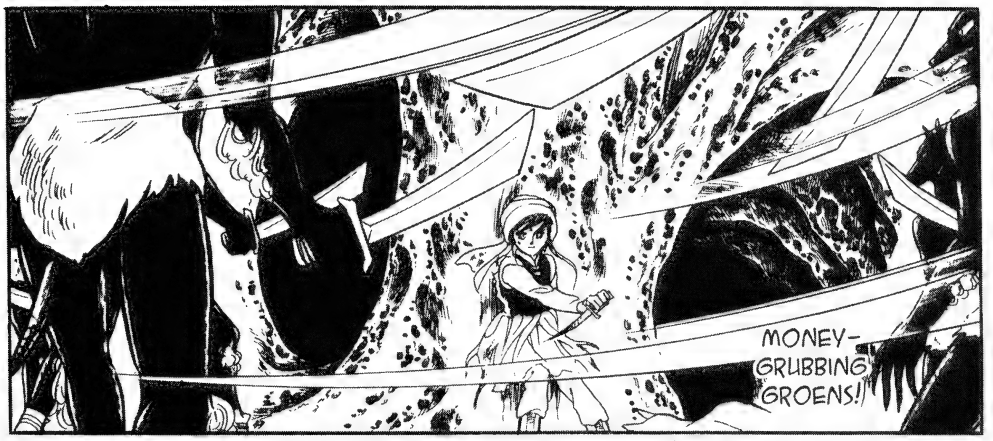
I WON'T LET THEM GET AWAY...
I CAN STILL CATCH UP.


EVEN IF THE CLAIRVOYANCE FRIES MY BRAINS!

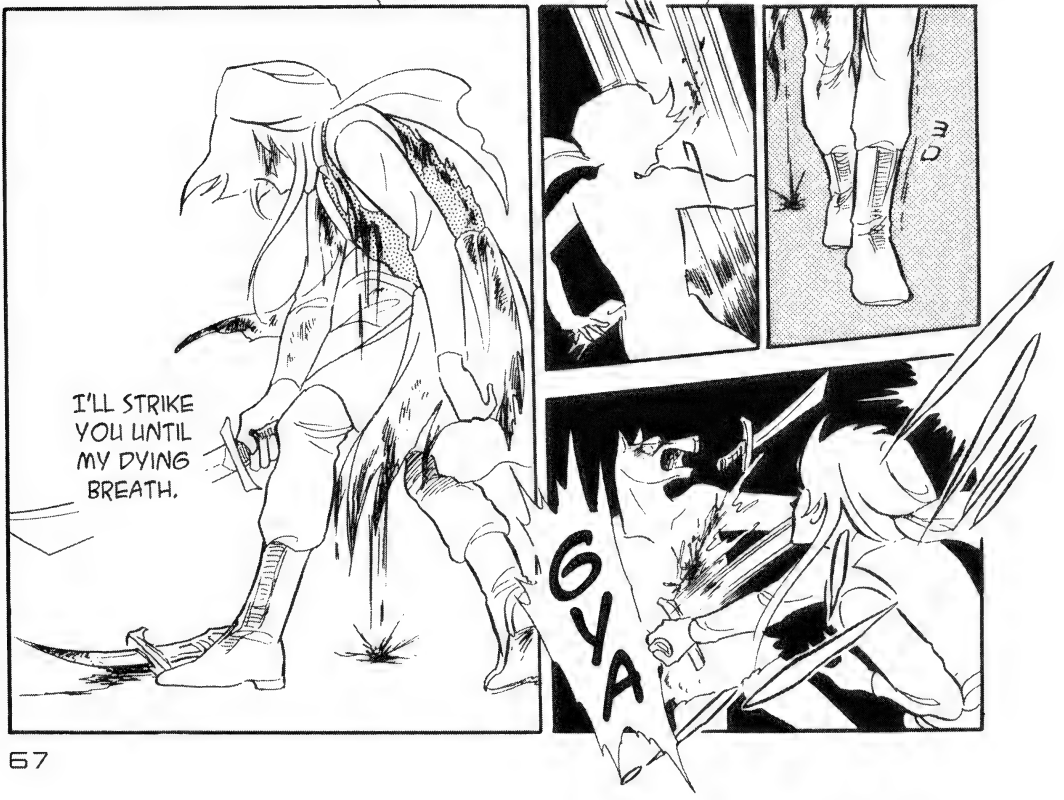


IF THEY'RE THE ONES THE KING'S AFTER, WE GET A REWARD.
THE COSMO-RALIAN KING WANTS THE MOTHER AND CHILD DEAD OR ALIVE.
I KILLED HIM.
YEAH ...
DID YOU KILL HIM ?

COME...
COME!
I'LL SLICE YOU UP!


MONEY-GRUBBING GROENS!

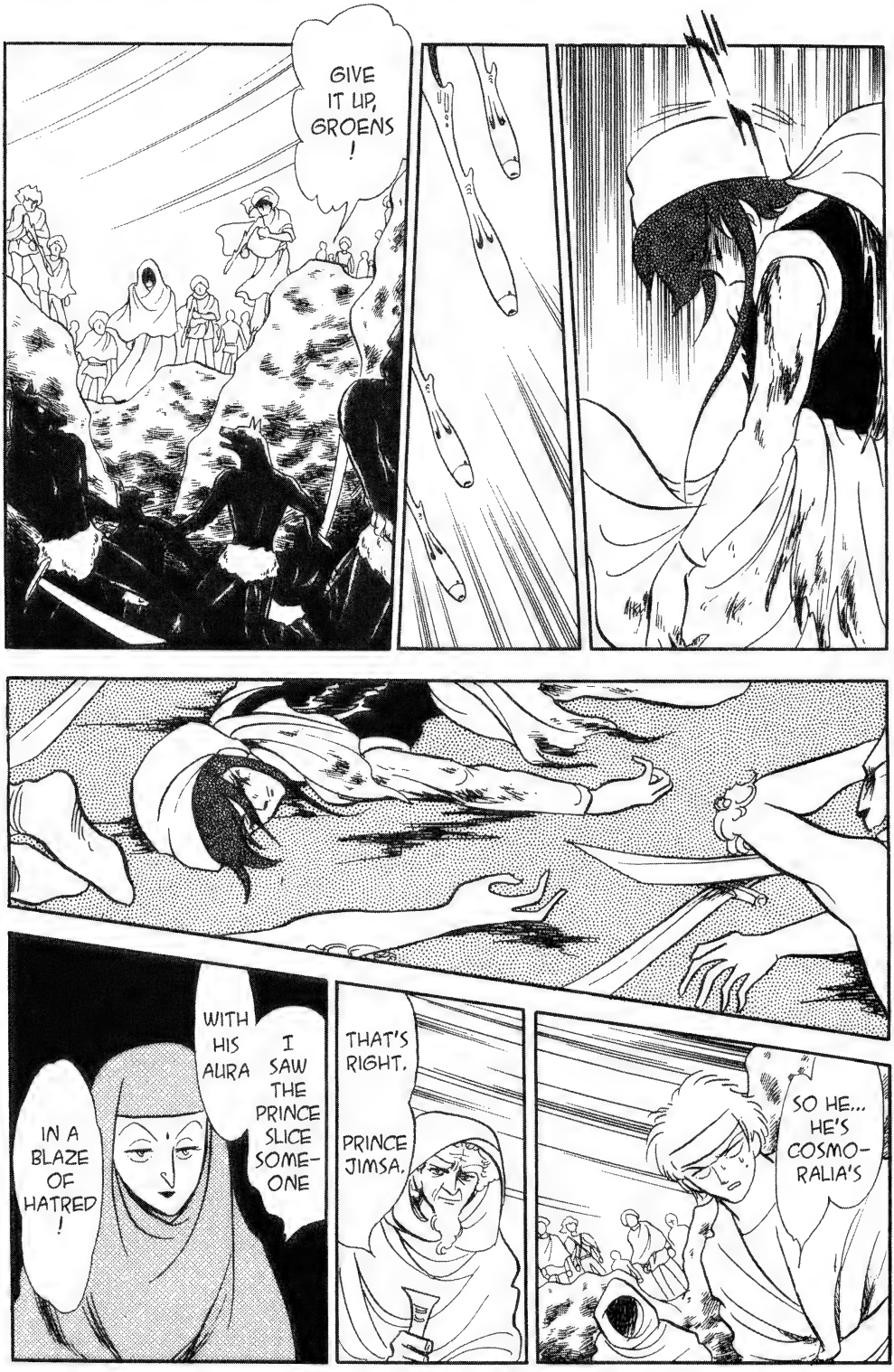
TOUCH MY MOTHER AND YOU'LL ANSWER TO ME!
DIE, EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU!


I'LL STRIKE YOU UNTIL MY DYING BREATH.
GYA

HURRY!
HURRY...
COORDINATES B-6, H-3, THE TOBIN BADLANDS.
QUICK!
EVEN WITH HIS SKILLS.
HE CAN'T FIGHT THEM ON HIS OWN,
HURRY!
THE ENEMY COMES
THE ENEMY COMES
ONE AFTER ANOTHER
WITHOUT END...

THERE!
HIS SWORD BROKE. THIS IS IT!
KILL HIM!

EVEN WITH A BROKEN SWORD ...
ZIOCH

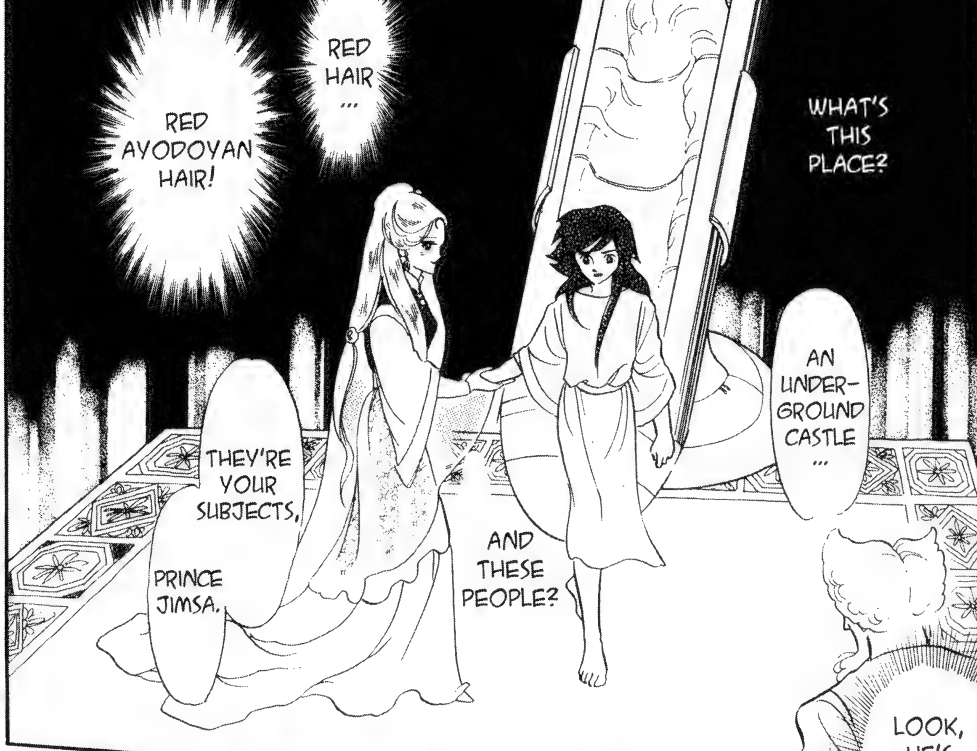

GIVE IT UP, GROENS!
WITH HIS AURA I SAW THE PRINCE SLICE SOME-ONE IN A BLAZE OF HATRED!
THAT'S RIGHT. PRINCE JIMSA.
SO HE... HE'S COSMO-RALIA'S

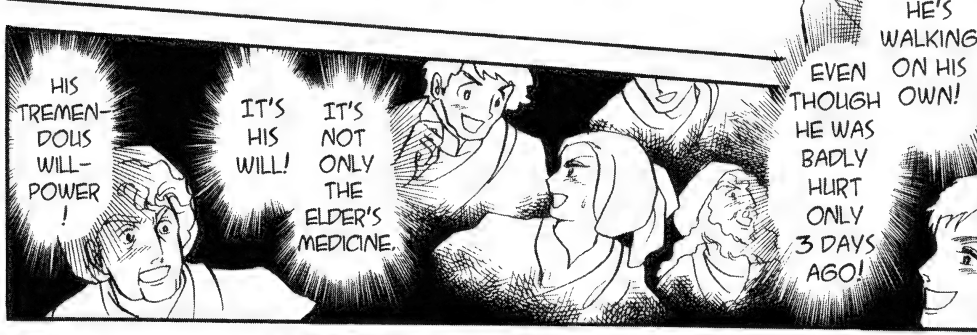
WITH-DRAW TO OUR
UNDER-GROUND CASTLE!

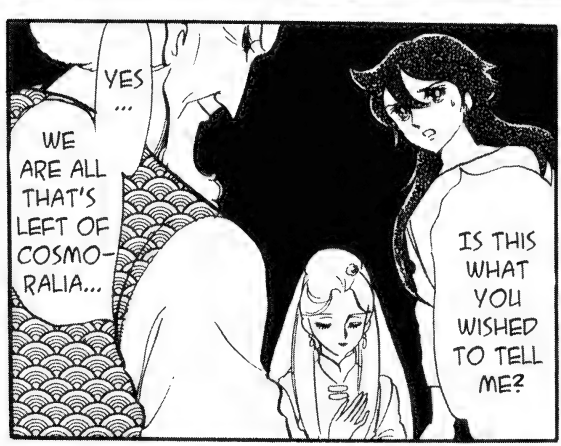
HIS WOUNDS ARE HEALING BEFORE OUR EYES.
THE CHILD IS WILLING IT TO HAPPEN.
HOW ELSE DO YOU EXPLAIN SO LITTLE BLOOD LOST FROM SUCH A BAD WOUND?
A NORMAL PERSON WOULD HAVE HAD NO CHANCE.
I'VE ONLY TOLD HER THAT WE'RE HER FORMER SUBJECTS.
PRINCESS LILIA IS UP, DOING WELL. SHE HADN'T A SINGLE WOUND.
YES ...
HAVE EVERY-ONE ASSEMBLE AT THE GRAND TEMPLE.
AS SOON AS HE COMES TO,
WHEN DO WE SPEAK?

...
MOM ...
MOTHER
WHAT ARE YOU DOING ?
MANY...
MANY SUBJECTS KNEEL AT MOTHER'S FEET.
MY BEAUTIFUL MOTHER
IS GLOWING AS I'VE NEVER SEEN HER BEFORE.
MY CRYSTAL BALL
HAS
SHATTERED.

ARE YOU UP, PRINCE JIMSA ?
OH! GOOD !


RED AYODOYAN HAIR!
RED HAIR ...
WHAT'S THIS PLACE?
AN UNDER-GROUND CASTLE ...
THEY'RE YOUR SUBJECTS, PRINCE JIMSA.
AND THESE PEOPLE?


HIS TREMEN-DOUS WILL-POWER!
IT'S HIS WILL!
IT'S NOT ONLY THE ELDER'S MEDICINE.
LOOK, HE'S WALKING ON HIS OWN!
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS BADLY HURT ONLY 3 DAYS AGO!


YES ...
WE ARE ALL THAT'S LEFT OF COSMO-RALIA...
IS THIS WHAT YOU WISHED TO TELL ME?

YOUR MOTHER BELONGS TO THE AYODOYAN BLOODLINE MEANT TO FIGHT THE ENEMY
AND YOU ...
THIS ENEMY HAS BEEN OUR FOE FOR GENERATIONS.
THAT IS TO SAY, WE'RE A PEOPLE WHO WISH TO WIPE OUT THE ENEMY THAT HAS TAKEN OVER COSMORALIA.
YOU ARE THE PRINCE BORN WITH BLOOD PURE ENOUGH TO RESIST ENEMY CONTROL ...
SINCE THE DESTRUCTION OF OUR PLANET, MURAT.
ARE THE 8TH GENERATION WE'VE WAITED FOR DURING THE 150 CYCLES
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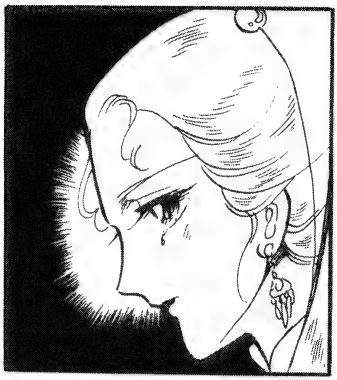
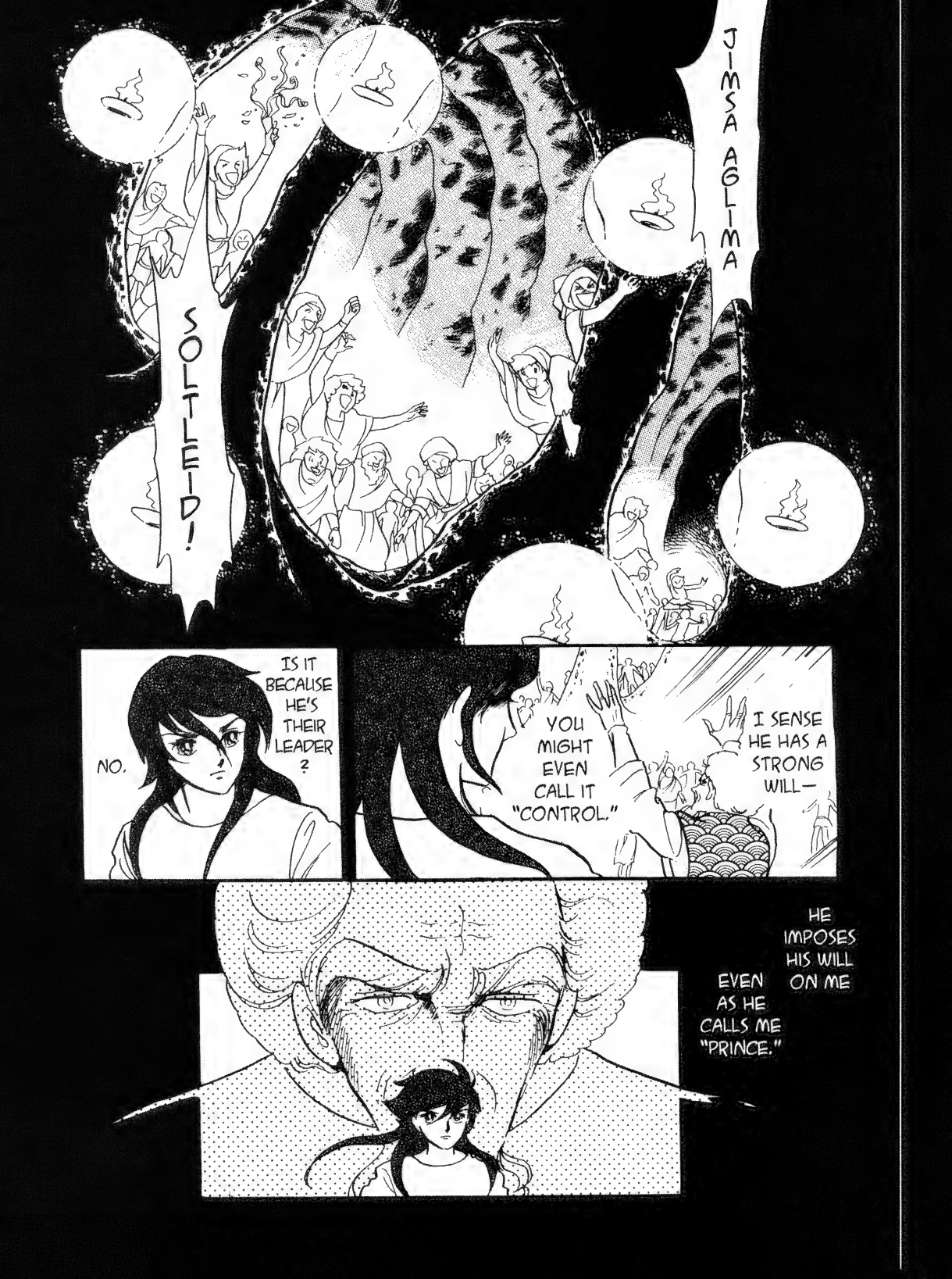
THE SUN KING JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID !



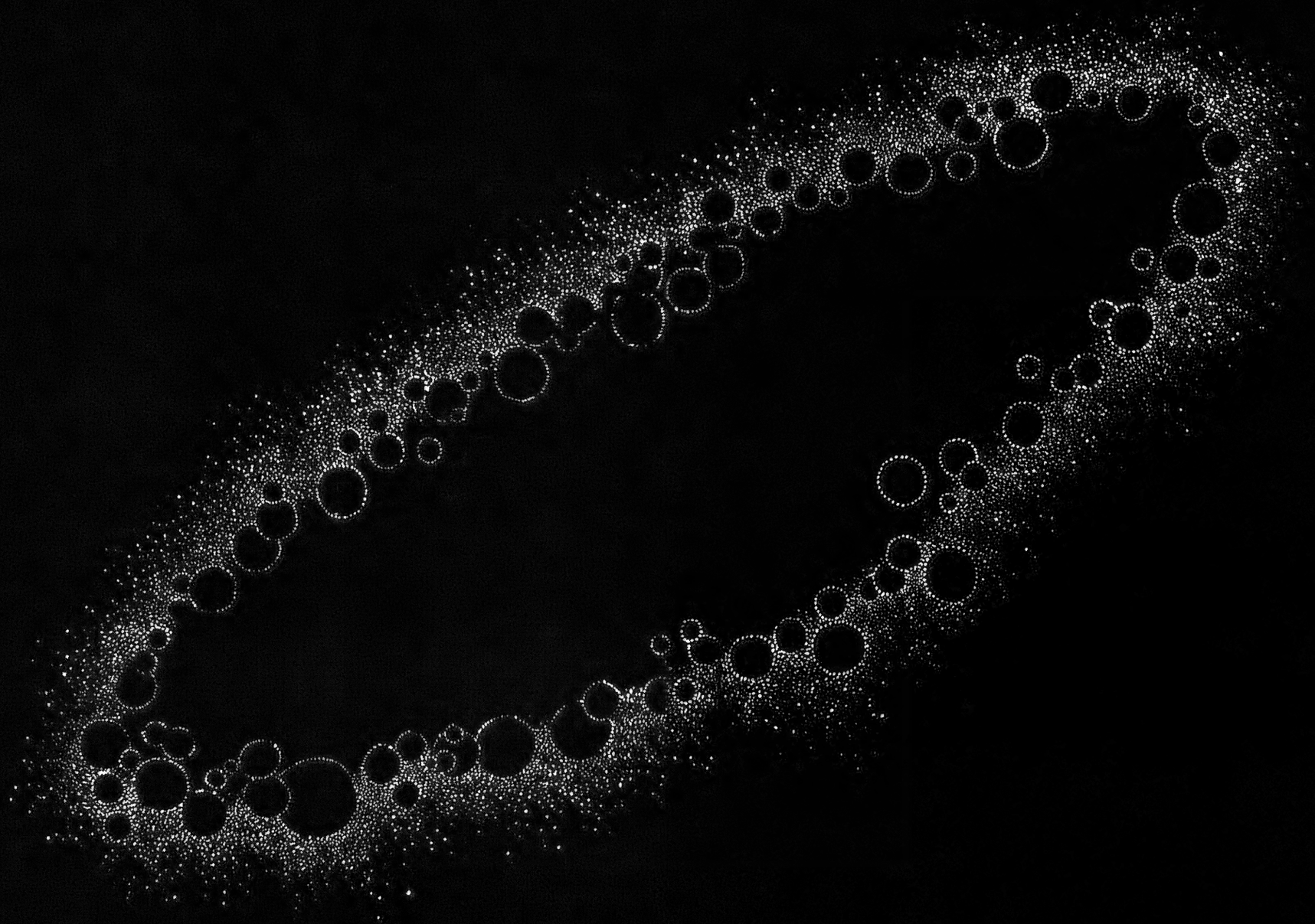
SHE ACTS AS IF THIS IS THE MOST NATURAL THING IN THE WORLD.
I'VE NEVER SEEN HER SMILE LIKE THAT.

JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID!
JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID!
JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID!


JIMSA AGLIMA
SOLTLEID!
IS IT BECAUSE HE'S THEIR LEADER?
NO.
I SENSE HE HAS A STRONG WILL—
YOU MIGHT EVEN CALL IT "CONTROL."
HE IMPOSES HIS WILL ON ME
EVEN AS HE CALLS ME "PRINCE."

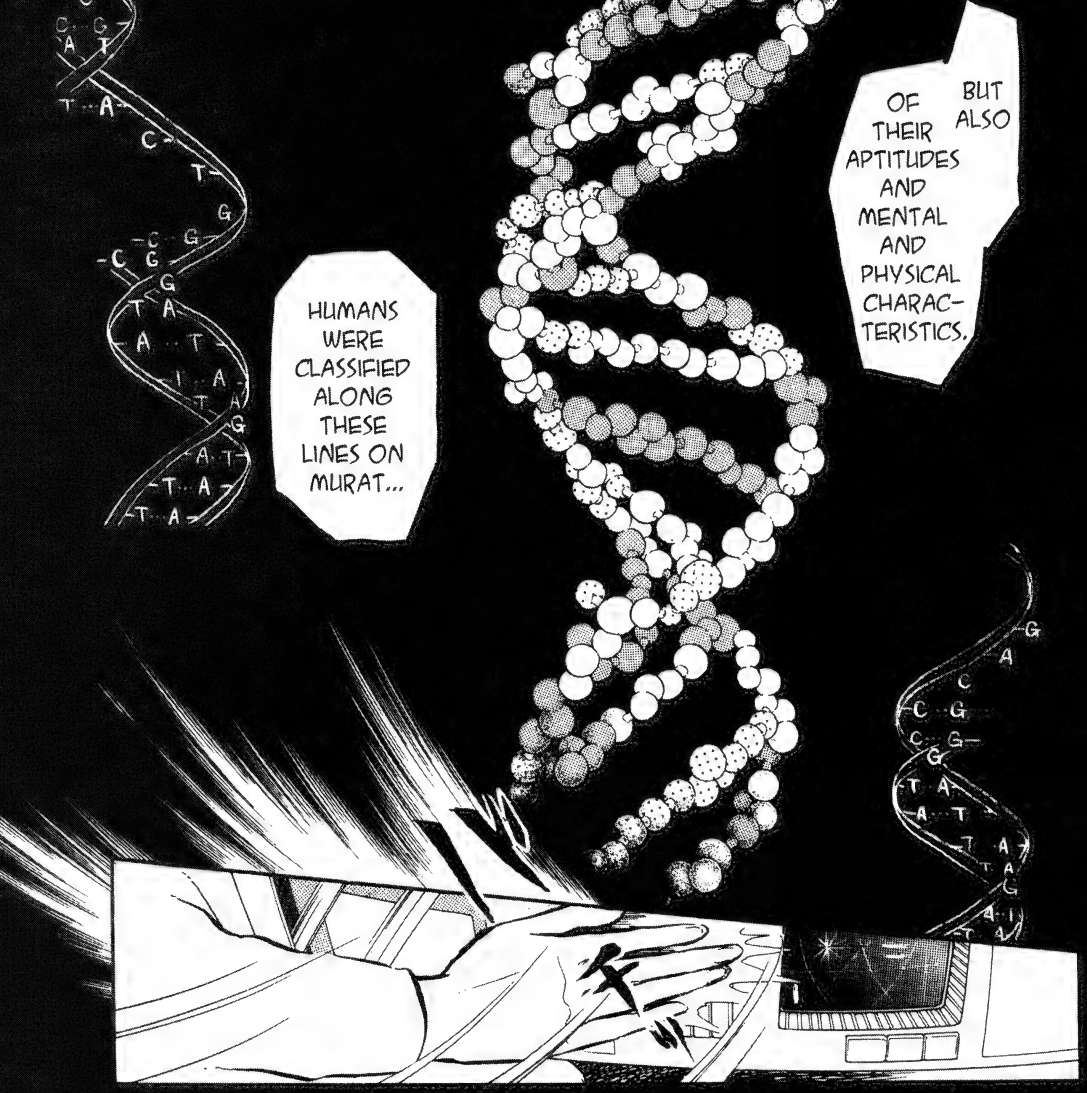
I DON'T TRUST YOU.
I'LL ACCEPT THAT YOUR PEOPLE WERE ONCE MY SUBJECTS IN COSMO-RALIA
AND THAT I AM A PRINCE DESTINED TO FIGHT THE SAME ENEMY.
BUT
WHO ARE YOU?
YOU DON'T ACT LIKE YOU'RE MY SUBJECT.
PRINCE JIMSA!
THE TIME WILL COME TO REVEAL EVERY-THING TO YOU.
THEN YOU'LL UNDER-STAND THE DESIGN OF THE UNIVERSE.
I CAME TO THIS PLACE FOR MY MOM.
I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO MAKE HER SMILE LIKE THAT.
FOR THAT, I THANK YOU.

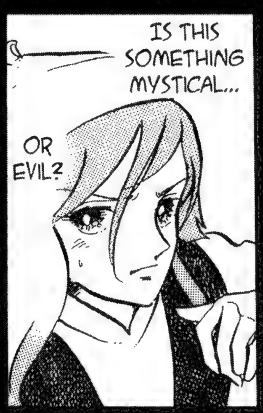
HOW INSIGHTFUL OF YOU, PRINCE JIMSA !
YOU ...
YOU MAY BE THE ONE
TO UNBIND THE CHAINS OF THIS UNIVERSE !

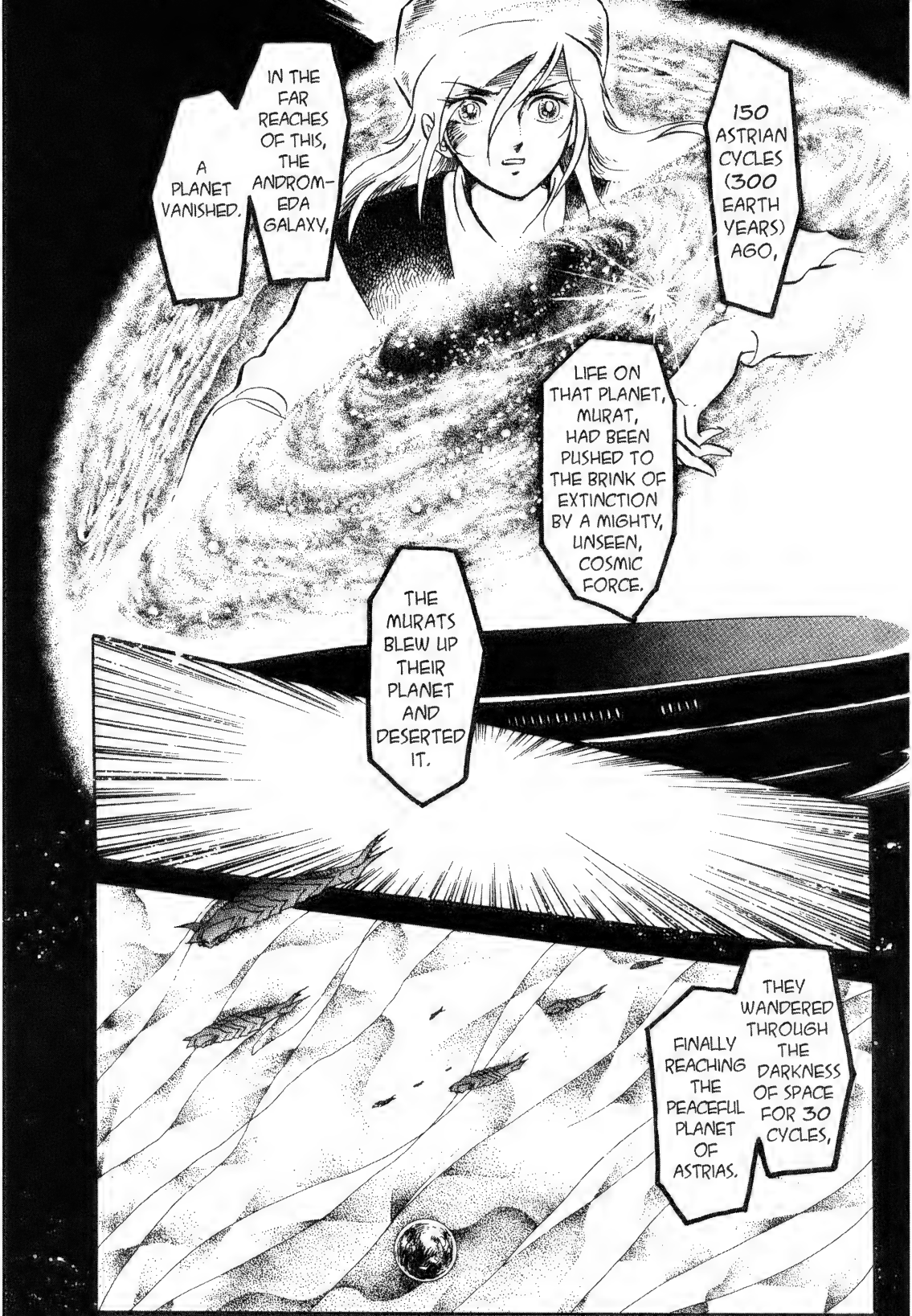


MURAT MEDICINE IS MAINLY BASED ON MUTATIONS INDUCED THROUGH GENETIC CHANGES.

THIS ALLOWS COMPLETE CONTROL NOT ONLY OF THE APPEARANCES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS,

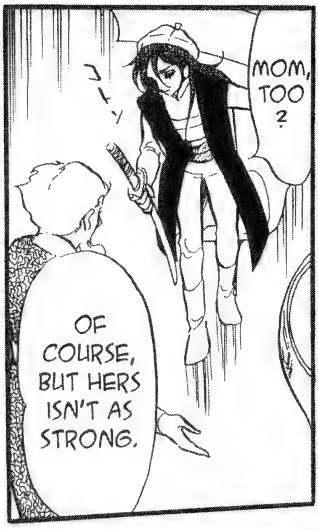

HUMANS WERE CLASSIFIED ALONG THESE LINES ON MURAT...
BUT ALSO OF THEIR APTITUDES AND MENTAL AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS.


IS THIS SOMETHING MYSTICAL...
OR EVIL?

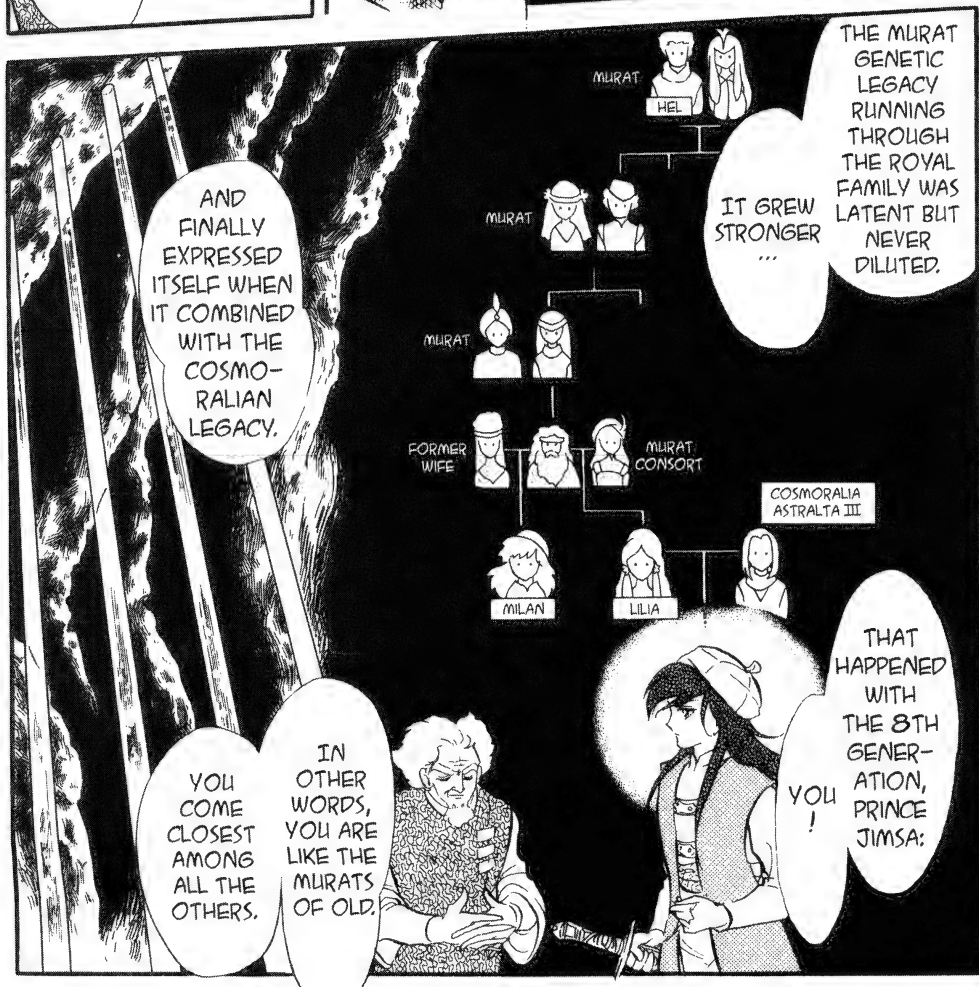

150 ASTRIAN CYCLES (300 EARTH YEARS) AGO,
IN THE FAR REACHES OF THIS, THE ANDROM-EDA GALAXY,
A PLANET VANISHED.
LIFE ON THAT PLANET, MURAT, HAD BEEN PUSHED TO THE BRINK OF EXTINCTION BY A MIGHTY, UNSEEN, COSMIC FORCE.
THE MURATS BLEW UP THEIR PLANET AND DESERTED IT.
THEY WANDERED THROUGH THE DARKNESS OF SPACE FOR 30 CYCLES,
FINALLY REACHING THE PEACEFUL PLANET OF ASTRIAS.

AT THE TIME, THE COSMORALIAN AND AYODOYAN POLITIES WERE EMERGING AS CENTRAL POWERS ON ASTRIAS.
THE MURATS ABANDONED THEIR ADVANCED CIVILIZATION AND ADOPTED AYODOYA AS THEIR HOME.
AFTER CONTRIBUTING TO AYODOYAN MEDICINE FOR 20 CYCLES, MAGDOULA HEL, A MURAT DOCTOR, MARRIED AYODOYA'S PRINCESS.
THUS MURAT HISTORY AND AYODOYAN HISTORY CON-VERGED.

THERE YOU ARE.


MOM, TOO?
OF COURSE, BUT HERS ISN'T AS STRONG.

MURAT BLOOD IS THE PURE BLOOD OF THOSE WHO FOUGHT THE ENEMY, WHO NEVER GAVE IN.
THAT BLOOD RUNS IN YOU ...
...

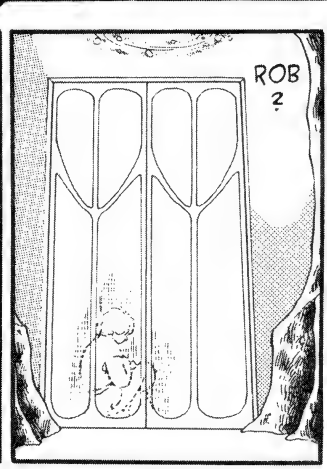

THE MURAT GENETIC LEGACY RUNNING THROUGH THE ROYAL FAMILY WAS LATENT BUT NEVER DILUTED.
IT GREW STRONGER ...
MURAT
HEL
MURAT
MURAT
FORMER WIFE
MURAT CONSORT
COSMORALIA ASTRALTA III
MILAN
LILIA
AND FINALLY EXPRESSED ITSELF WHEN IT COMBINED WITH THE COSMO-RALIAN LEGACY.
YOU COME CLOSEST AMONG ALL THE OTHERS.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ARE LIKE THE MURATS OF OLD.
YOU!
THAT HAPPENED WITH THE 8TH GENER-ATION, PRINCE JIMSA:

YOU MAY CONTINUE STUDYING MURAT ON YOUR OWN.
BUT PLEASE DON'T MISCON-STRUE WHAT YOU LEARN.

WE'RE READY. PLEASE COME TO THE COM ROOM.

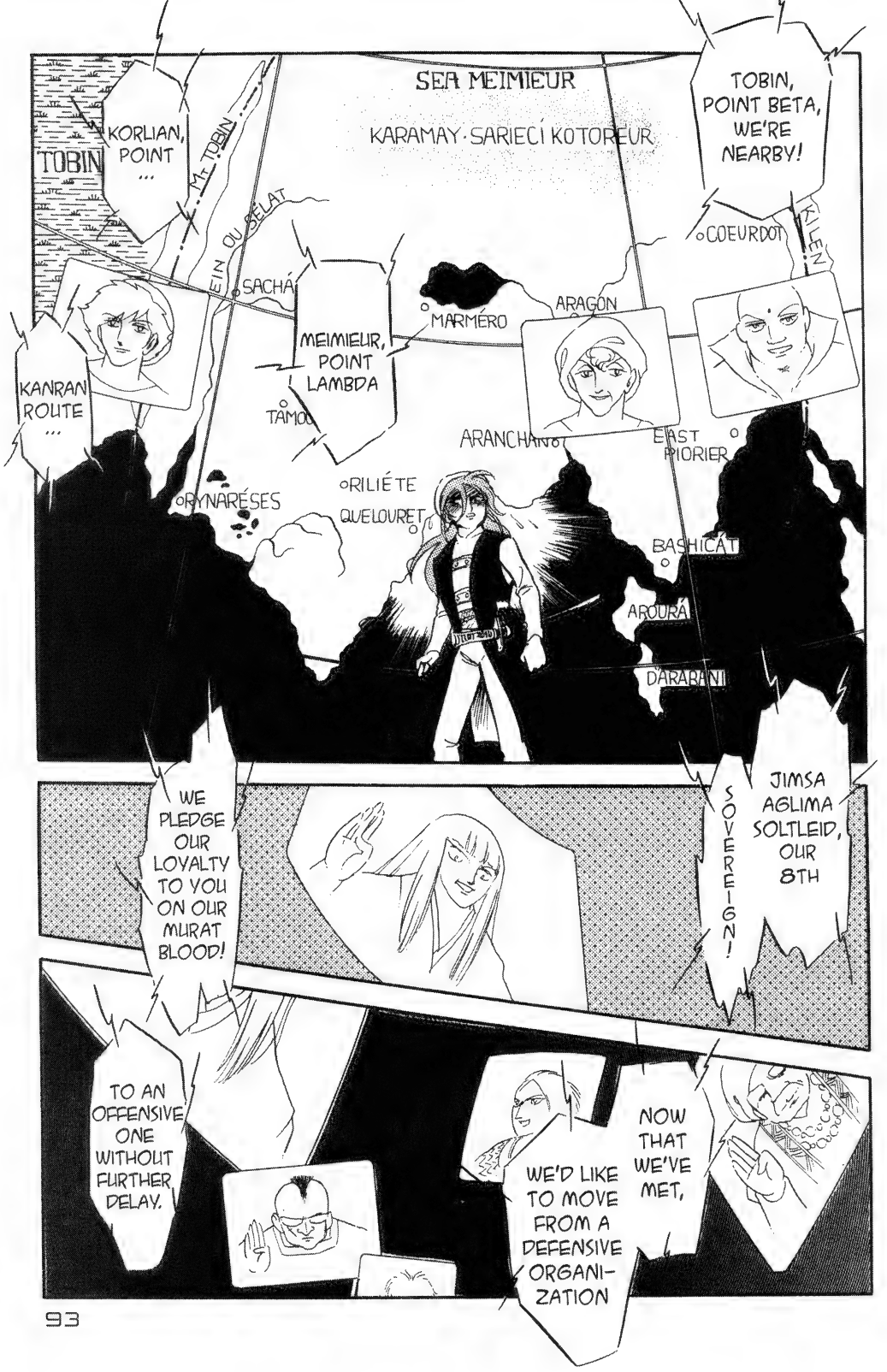
ELDER!

SEE YOU SOON.
HARDLY HUMAN!
THEY'RE ALIENS, ALL RIGHT


ROB?

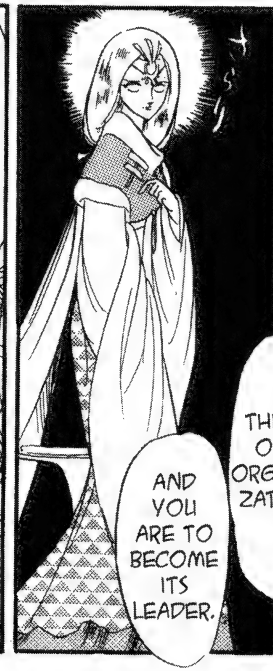
AH... AH!
ROB!
AS LONG AS THEY'RE THE SAME AS BEFORE.
IT'S NOT A BAD THING TO BRING BACK THE DEAD...
C...CAME TO GET YOU.
ROB, I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD!
WITH PRINCE JIMSA AND QUEEN LILIA.
ALL BASES ON ASTRIAS ARE REQUESTING CONTACT
ELDER!
MOM... WAITING THERE

TURN ON ALL SCREENS!
NOW, PRINCE...
MEET THEM, SCATTERED ACROSS ASTRIAS, YOUR
MURAT BRETHREN!
WHOA!


SEA MEIMIEUR
KARAMAY·SARIECI KOTOREUR
TOBIN
KORLIAN, POINT ...
MT. TOBIN
EIN OU SELAT
SACHÁ
MARMÉRO
ARAGON
COEURDOT
KLEN
MEIMIEUR, POINT LAMBDA
TÁMOO
KANRAN ROUTE ...
ARANCHANO
EAST PIORIER
RILIÉTE
QUELOURET
RYNARÉSES
BASHICÁT
AROURÁ
DARABANI
TOBIN, POINT BETA, WE'RE NEARBY!
WE PLEDGE OUR LOYALTY TO YOU ON OUR MURAT BLOOD!
JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID, OUR 8TH SOVEREIGN!
TO AN OFFENSIVE ONE WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY.
WE'D LIKE TO MOVE FROM A DEFENSIVE ORGANIZATION
NOW THAT WE'VE MET,

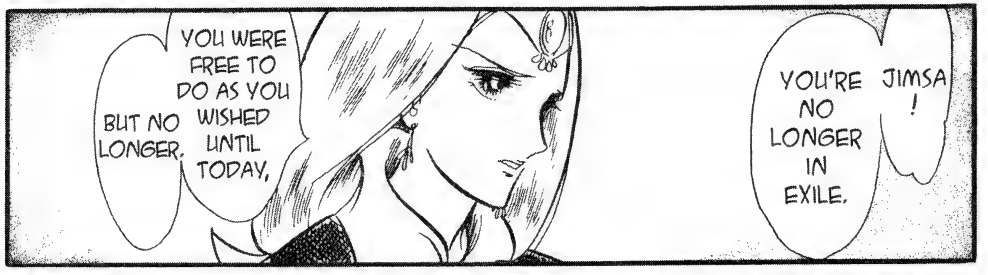
SOLTLEID!
JIMSA AGLIMA SOLTLEID!
MURAT!

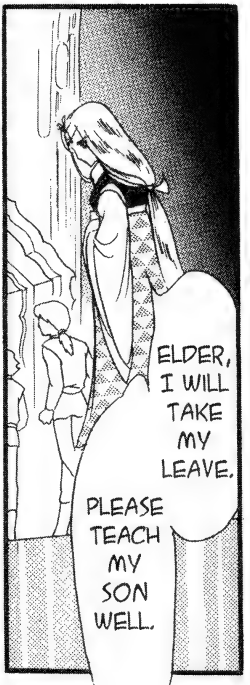
WE NEED YOU TO LEAVE HERE
SO YOU MAY UNDER-STAND YOUR ROLE.
VISIT THE OTHER BASES AND COME TO TERMS WITH YOUR MISSION.


AND YOU ARE TO BECOME ITS LEADER.

THOSE YOU JUST MET ARE FROM THE MAIN BASES.
THIS IS OUR ORGANI-ZATION
THERE ARE COUNT-LESS NOMADIC BANDS AS WELL.

AND MOM ?
JIMSA, I WILL BE FINE HERE. THERE ARE MANY WHO WILL PROTECT ME.
NO !
I'LL DO ANY-THING BUT LEAVE MOM BEHIND !


JIMSA !
YOU'RE NO LONGER IN EXILE.
YOU WERE FREE TO DO AS YOU WISHED UNTIL TODAY,
BUT NO LONGER.

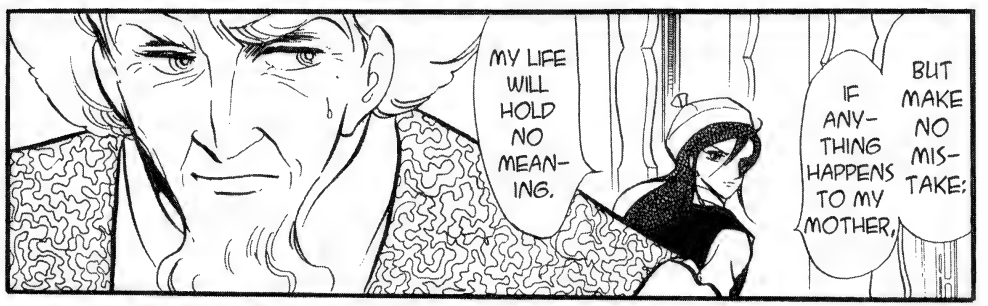

ELDER, I WILL TAKE MY LEAVE.
PLEASE TEACH MY SON WELL.

YES.
THE DUTY OF A LEADER.

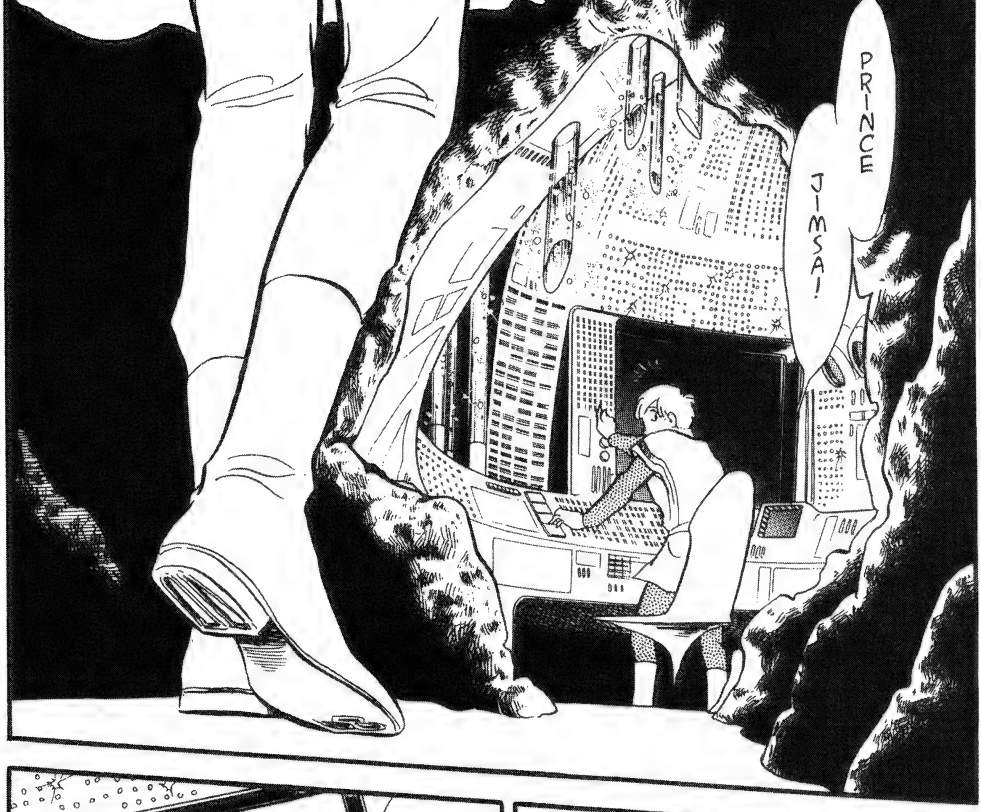
...!

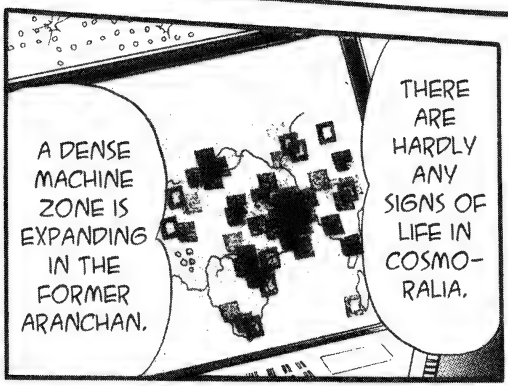
LEAVING HER BEHIND IS LIKE MAKING HER YOUR HOSTAGE.
SORRY, BUT WITHOUT MY MOTHER, COUNTRY, PLANET, OR ENEMY MEANS NO-THING TO ME.
DO YOU DOUBT US?
THIS HAVEN MEANS NOTHING IF I'M NOT HERE WITH HER.
NO!
DON'T YOU THINK SHE'D BE SAFER IF YOU WERE APART?
HAVE YOU FOR-GOTTEN ABOUT THE GROENS?
COSMORALIA, OR RATHER, THE ENEMY, STILL SEARCHES FOR THE ESCAPED MOTHER AND SON.
OUR RESCUING HER FROM THE GROENS DIDN'T GO UN-NOTICED.
THEY'LL SOON COME HERE IN PURSUIT.
IT HAPPENED IN THE CITY OF SACHÁ...
BEFORE MY EYES...
MANY MOTHERS AND SONS WERE INDISCRIMI-NATELY KILLED

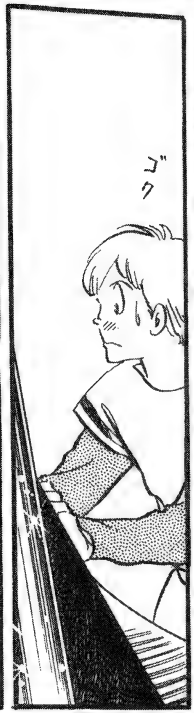
VERY WELL ...


BUT MAKE NO MIS-TAKE:
IF ANY-THING HAPPENS TO MY MOTHER,
MY LIFE WILL HOLD NO MEAN-ING.

THAT'S SOME GALL!
I HOPE TO SEE MORE OF IT ON OUR TRAVELS.
YOU THINK YOU CAN THREATEN AN ORGANI-ZATION THIS LARGE WITH THE LIFE OF ONE PERSON?


PRINCE JIMSA!


THERE ARE HARDLY ANY SIGNS OF LIFE IN COSMO-RALIA.
A DENSE MACHINE ZONE IS EXPANDING IN THE FORMER ARANCHAN.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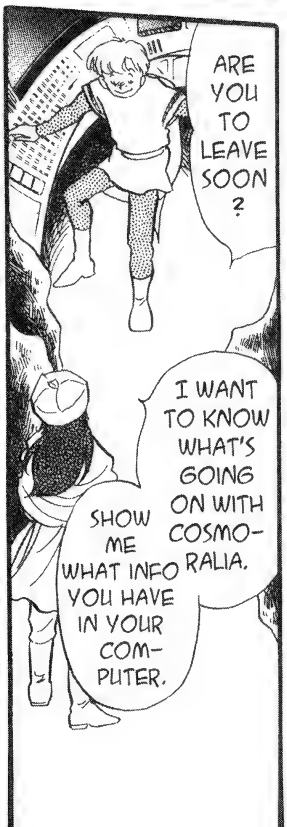
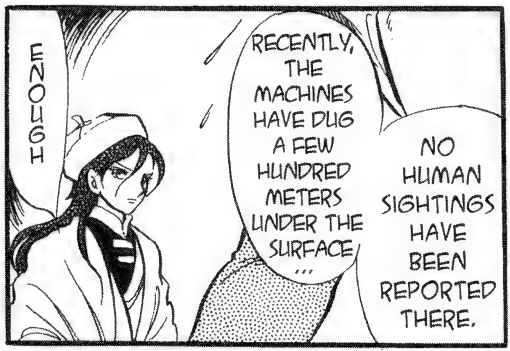

ARE YOU TO LEAVE SOON?
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON WITH COSMO-RALIA.
SHOW ME WHAT INFO YOU HAVE IN YOUR COM-PUTER.


NO HUMAN SIGHTINGS HAVE BEEN REPORTED THERE.
RECENTLY, THE MACHINES HAVE DUG A FEW HUNDRED METERS UNDER THE SURFACE...
ENOUGH

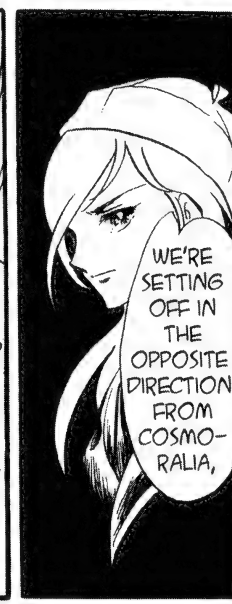
BUT EVEN MOST OF THOSE HAVE BEEN DEST-ROYED, NEVER TO RETURN.
NOT THE PALACE, THE KING!
WE CAN'T SEND IN INVESTIGATORS. THE BEST WE CAN DO IS SEND IN UNMANNED PROBES.
WE DO NOT KNOW...

WHAT ABOUT THE FORMER KING?
THE PALACE IS IN RUINS. NOW THERE ARE ONLY THE MACHINES AND THEIR SPIRES.

PRINCE!
DON'T THINK OF FIGHTING THE ENEMY ON YOUR OWN.
IT'S DIFFICULT EVEN WITH ALL OUR EFFORTS COMBINED.

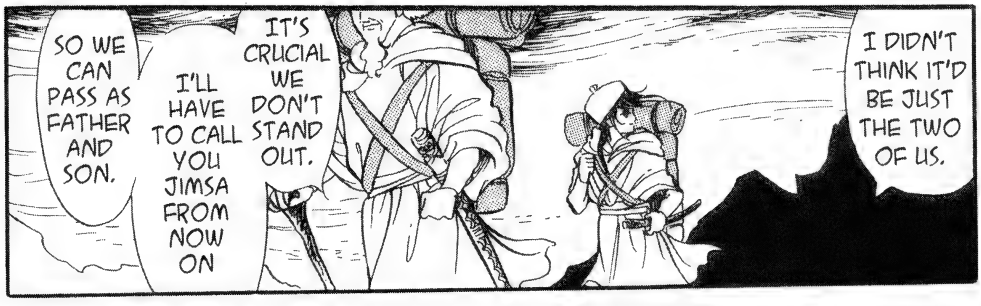
LET'S GO WHILE MOTHER'S STILL ASLEEP!

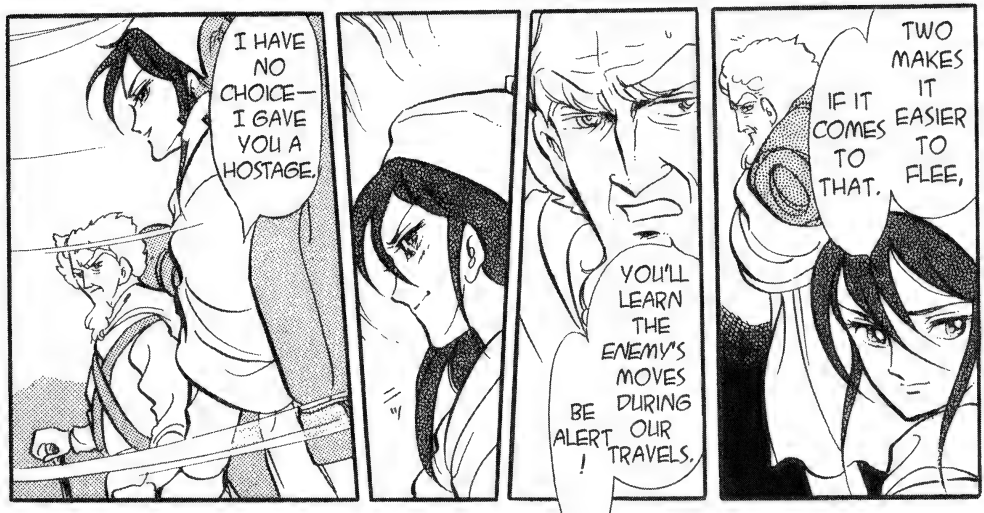
SO I ASKED OF NEWS ON MY FATHER.
OKAY?

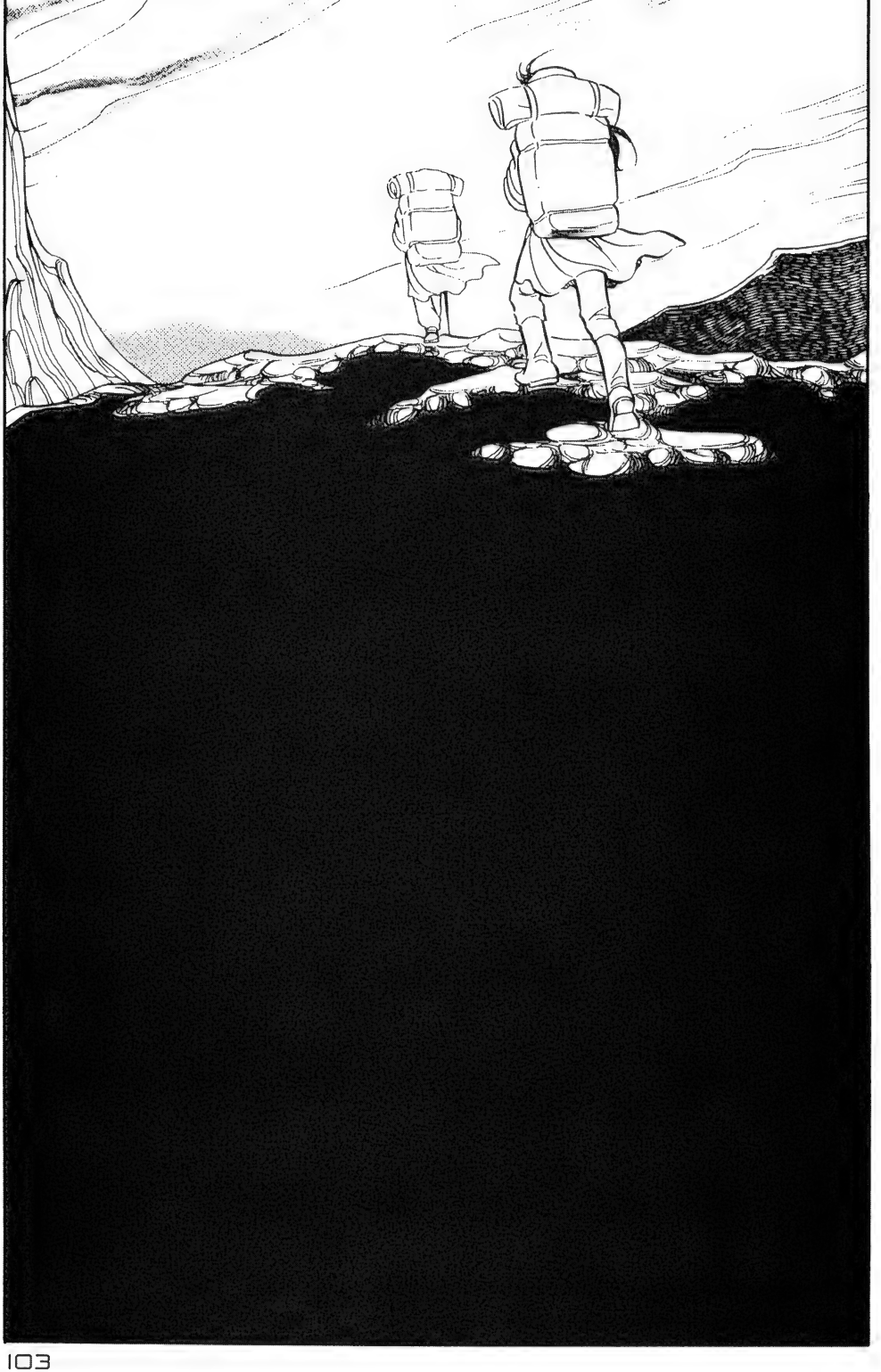

WE'RE SETTING OFF IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM COSMO-RALIA,

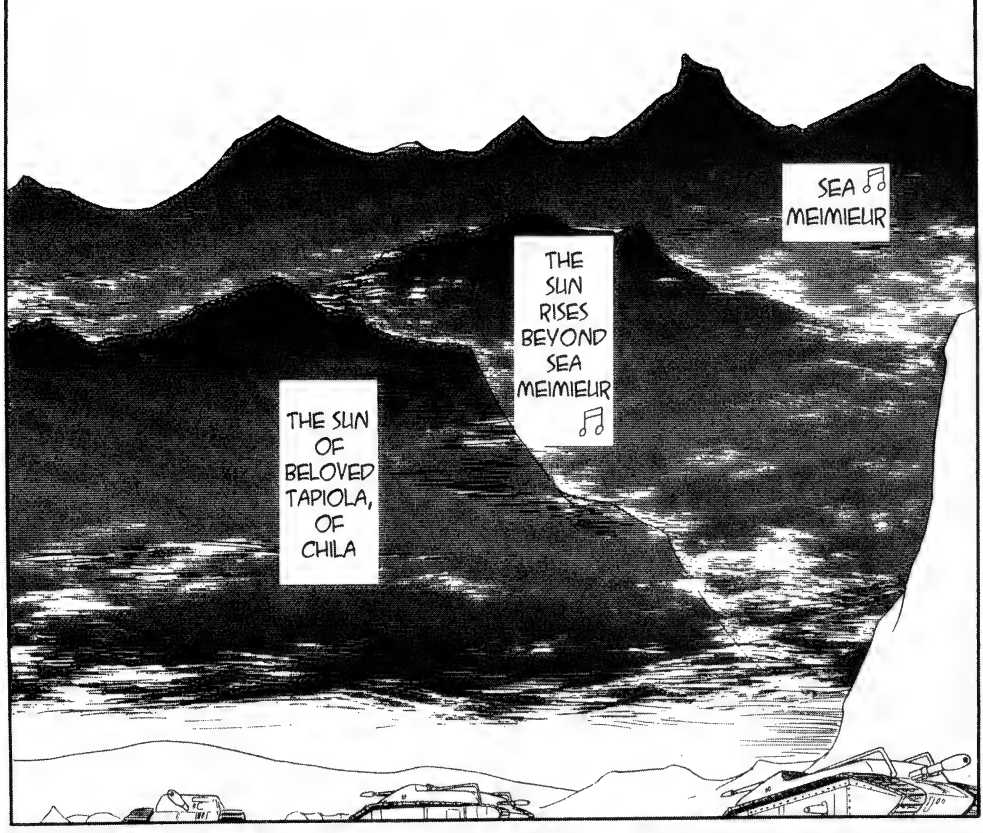
GO, JIMSA, MY PRINCE!
TRAIN WELL AND BE PREPARED.
YOUR LIFE AS A PRINCE FINALLY BEGINS NOW!
...
TAKE CARE!

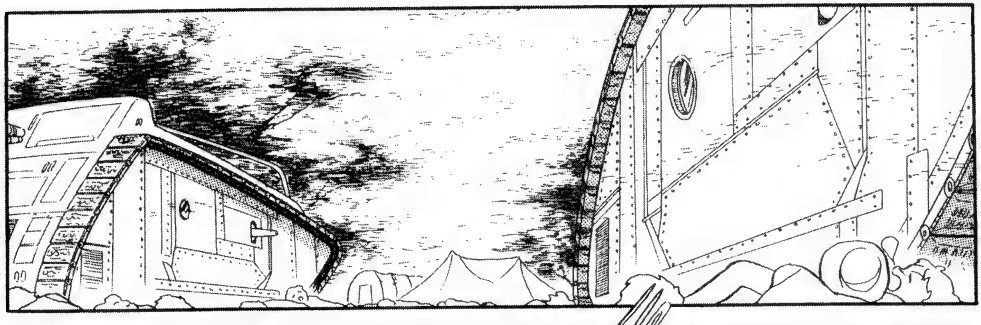
ASTRALTA III,
WHOM SHE LOVED!
AS HE WAS.
BEFORE HE BECAME A PUPPET OF THE MACHINES.
MOTHER WON'T FORGET FATHER

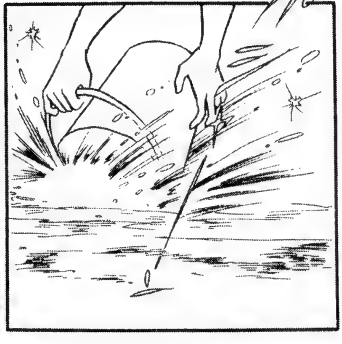

I DIDN'T THINK IT'D BE JUST THE TWO OF US.
IT'S CRUCIAL WE DON'T STAND OUT.
I'LL HAVE TO CALL YOU JIMSA FROM NOW ON
SO WE CAN PASS AS FATHER AND SON.

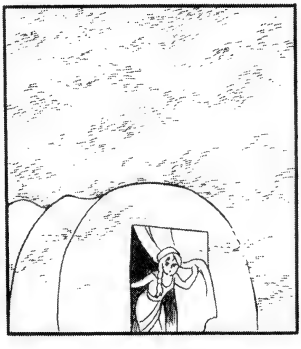

TWO MAKES IT EASIER TO FLEE,
IF IT COMES TO THAT.
YOU'LL LEARN THE ENEMY'S MOVES DURING OUR TRAVELS.
BE ALERT!
I HAVE NO CHOICE— I GAVE YOU A HOSTAGE.



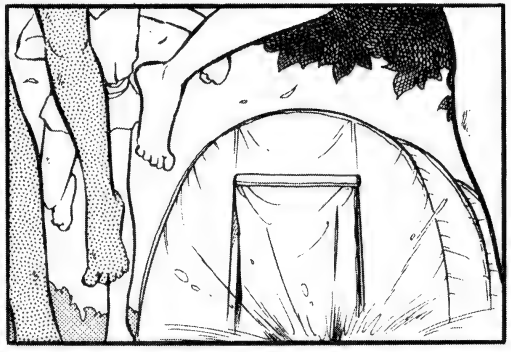

SEA ♫ MEIMIEUR
THE SUN RISES BEYOND SEA MEIMIEUR ♫
THE SUN OF BELOVED TAPIOLA, OF CHILA







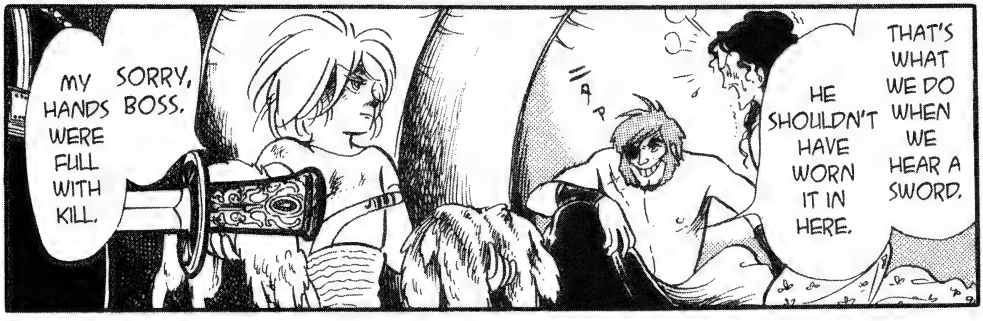
AAH ...
WHAT A RACKET!
SHOOT ...



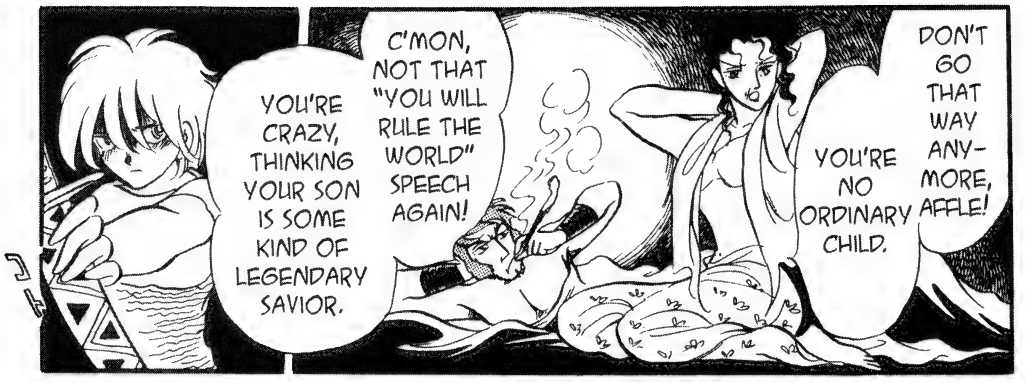
HOW CAN HE SLEEP THROUGH THIS?
I GUESS IT'S HIS NERVES OF STEEL.
NOT SURPRISING, SINCE HE'S A LEADER OF BANDITS.
THE CARAVAN'S JUST A COVER.

AH, MY CHILD'S BACK.

WHO'S THERE!
HEY!
CAN'T YOU TELL MY KID FROM A TRES-PASSER?


THAT'S WHAT WE DO WHEN WE HEAR A SWORD.
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE WORN IT IN HERE.
SORRY, BOSS.
MY HANDS WERE FULL WITH KILL.

HI, MOM.
HOW WAS TOBIN TOWN?
THEY'VE BEGUN HUNTING PEOPLE IN THE FOOT-HILLS.
I HEAR THE MACHINES HAVE STARTED COMING OVER THE TOBIN MOUN-TAINS.
HEAVEN FORBID!


YOU'RE CRAZY, THINKING YOUR SON IS SOME KIND OF LEGENDARY SAVIOR.
C'MON, NOT THAT "YOU WILL RULE THE WORLD" SPEECH AGAIN!
YOU'RE NO ORDINARY CHILD.
DON'T GO THAT WAY ANY-MORE, AFFLE!

AH... OOH ... YOU JERK ...
I'LL GO CUT UP THE MEAT.
AH ...
IF I HADN'T COME ALONG.
YOU TWO WOULD HAVE FALLEN PREY TO THE MACHINES
YOU'RE LUCKY!

HMPH!
I HATE TO BREAK IT TO YOU, BUT HE AIN'T SMALL TIME LIKE YOU.
HE'LL BE MORE THAN JUST A BANDIT LEADER.
I THINK HE CAN TAKE OVER FROM ME SOME DAY.
THAT KID'S GOT SPINE.

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OUT OF THE WAY!
MAKE ROOM FOR THE BOSS'S KID AFFLE.
HE'S AMAZ-ING.
HE HUNTS DOWN BIG PREY LIKE A GROWN MAN.
EVEN THE OLDER GIRLS ARE INTO HIM.
HIS ONLY FLAW IS HE'S SMALL FOR HIS AGE.

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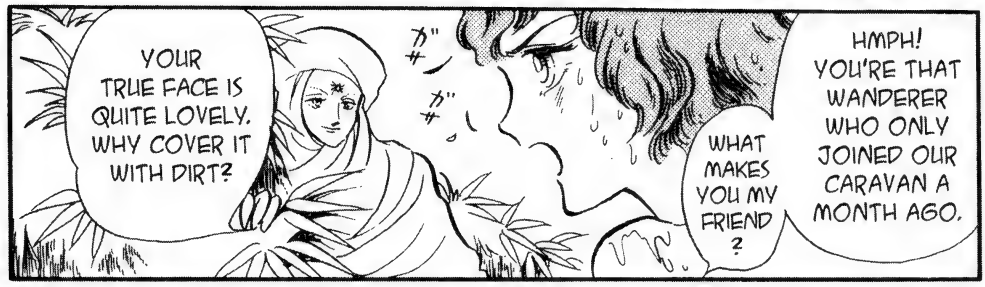
WELL NOW, IT'S NOT EVERY DAY
YOU SEE GREEN HAIR.
W... WAIT!
I WON'T TELL ANY-ONE.
FREEZE!
I'M A FRIEND. FORTUNE-TELLER KHAZAK.


HMPH! YOU'RE THAT WANDERER WHO ONLY JOINED OUR CARAVAN A MONTH AGO.
WHAT MAKES YOU MY FRIEND?
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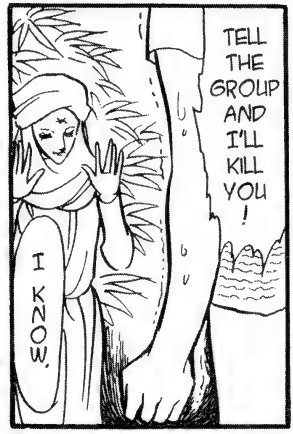
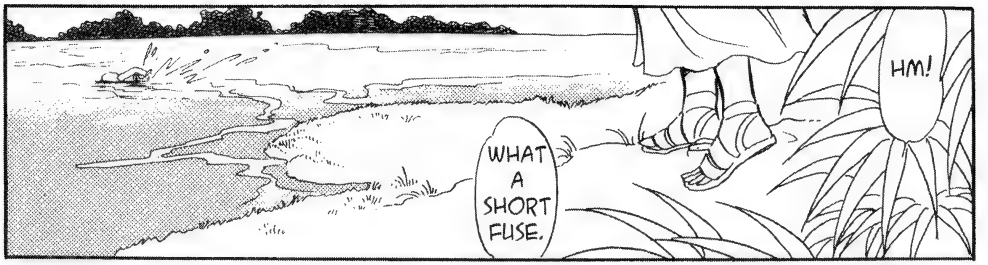
YOUR TRUE FACE IS QUITE LOVELY. WHY COVER IT WITH DIRT?

IF YOU DON'T WANT OTHERS TO FIND OUT, I'LL STAND GUARD HERE.
I DON'T WANT YOUR HELP!
AH...


TELL THE GROUP AND I'LL KILL YOU!
I KNOW.


HM!
WHAT A SHORT FUSE.

YOU WERE BORN TO ME AND THE GOD OF DESTINY.
DEAR AFFLE!
YOUR FATHER IS THE GOD OF DESTINY! YOU'RE NO ORDINARY CHILD.
REMEMBER THIS, MY CHILD:

YOU MUSTN'T FORGET:
YOU'RE NO ORDINARY CHILD.
YOU WERE BORN WITH THE POWER TO CHANGE DESTINY.
SEE THE RED DRAGON IN YOUR RIGHT HAND?
BUT...
I HOLD NO HOPE FOR THIS WORLD.
I DON'T CARE.
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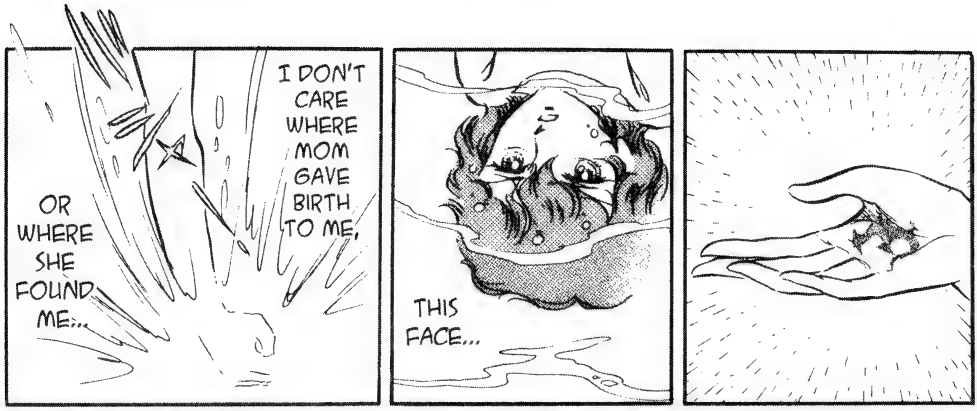
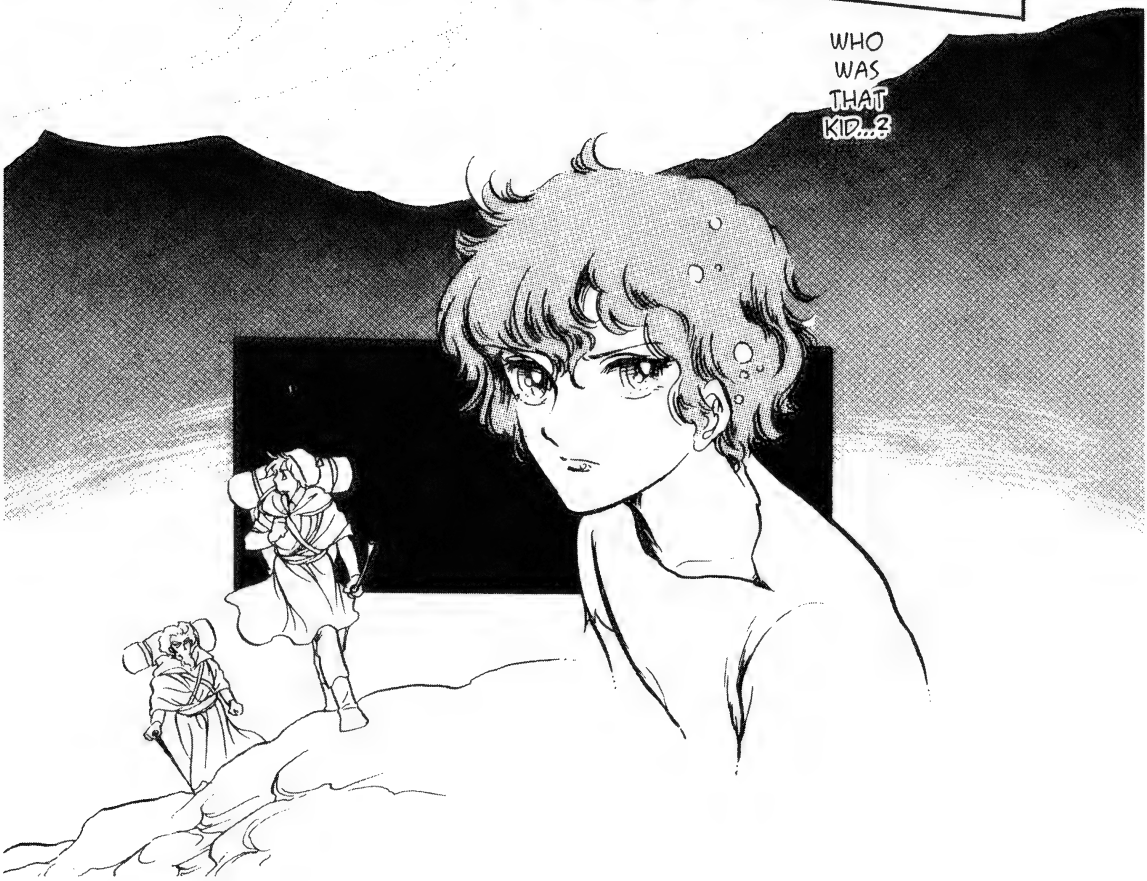
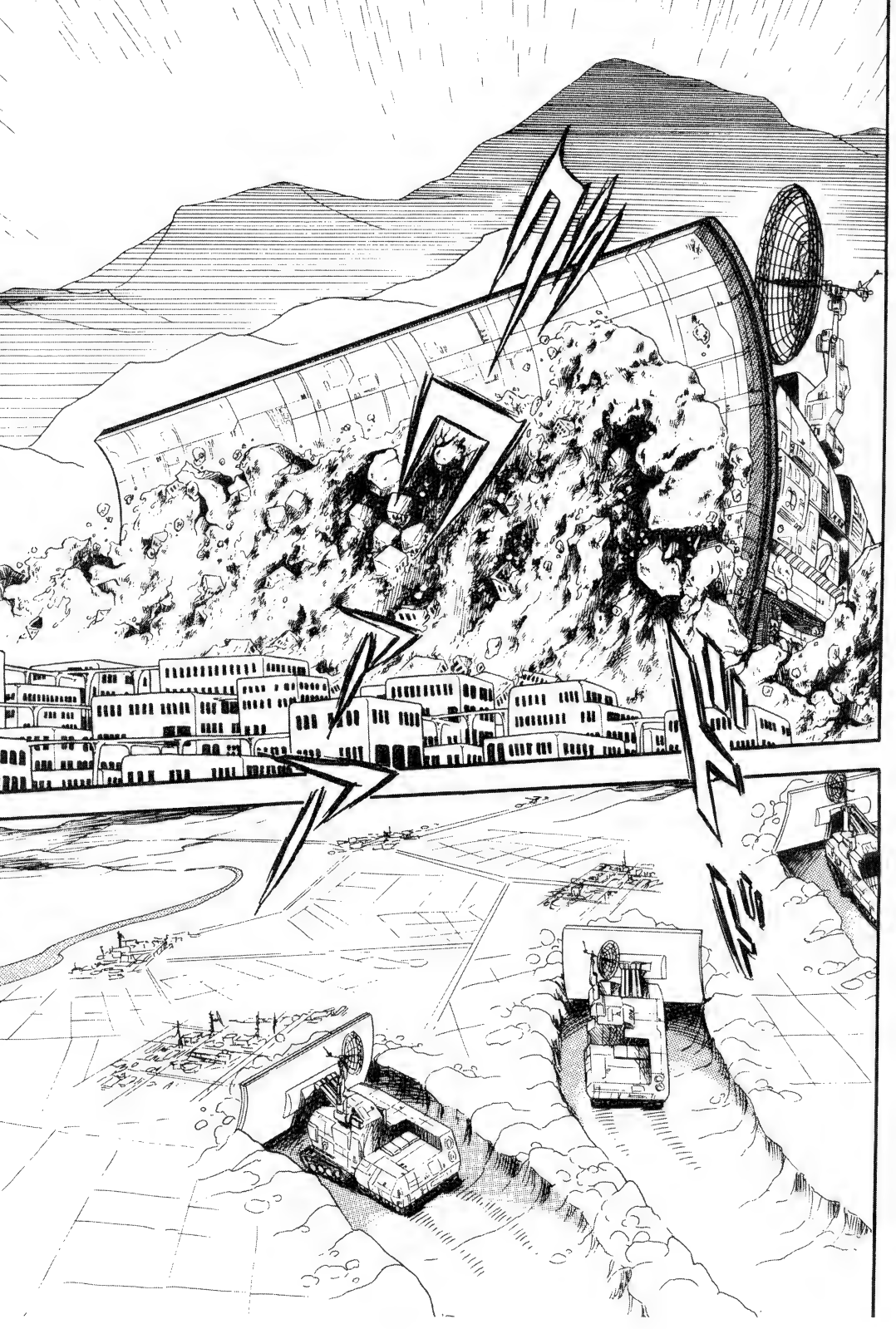
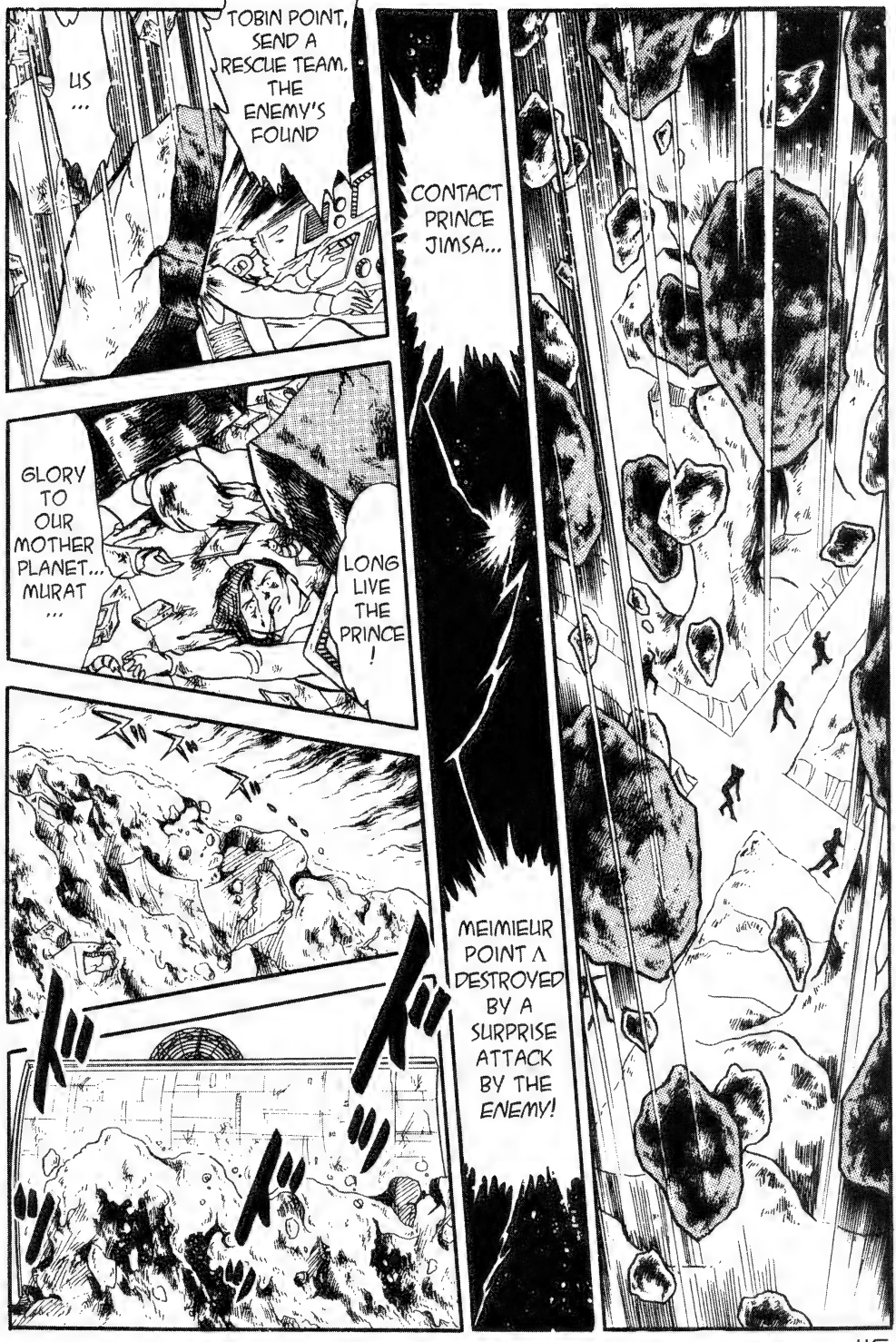
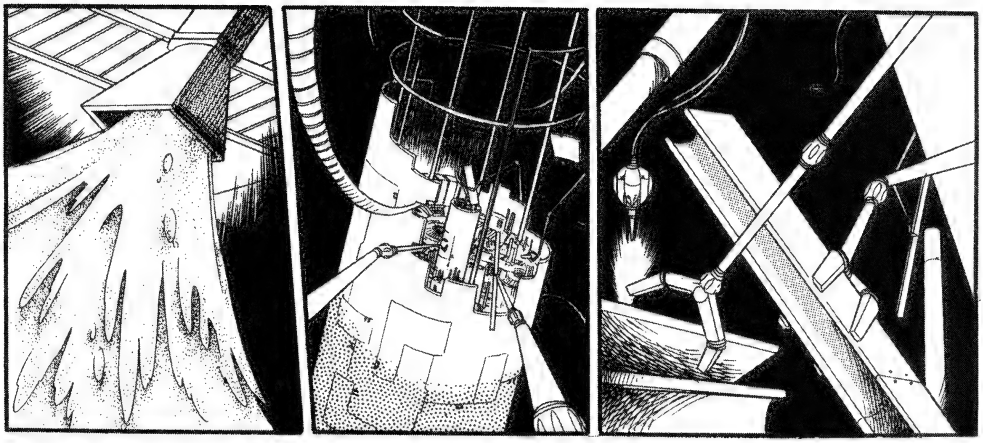

I DON'T CARE WHERE MOM GAVE BIRTH TO ME,
OR WHERE SHE FOUND ME...
THIS FACE...

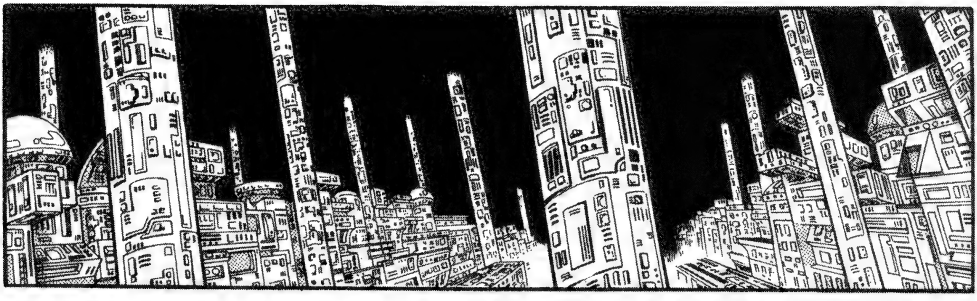
BUT WHY TWO OF THE SAME FACE?

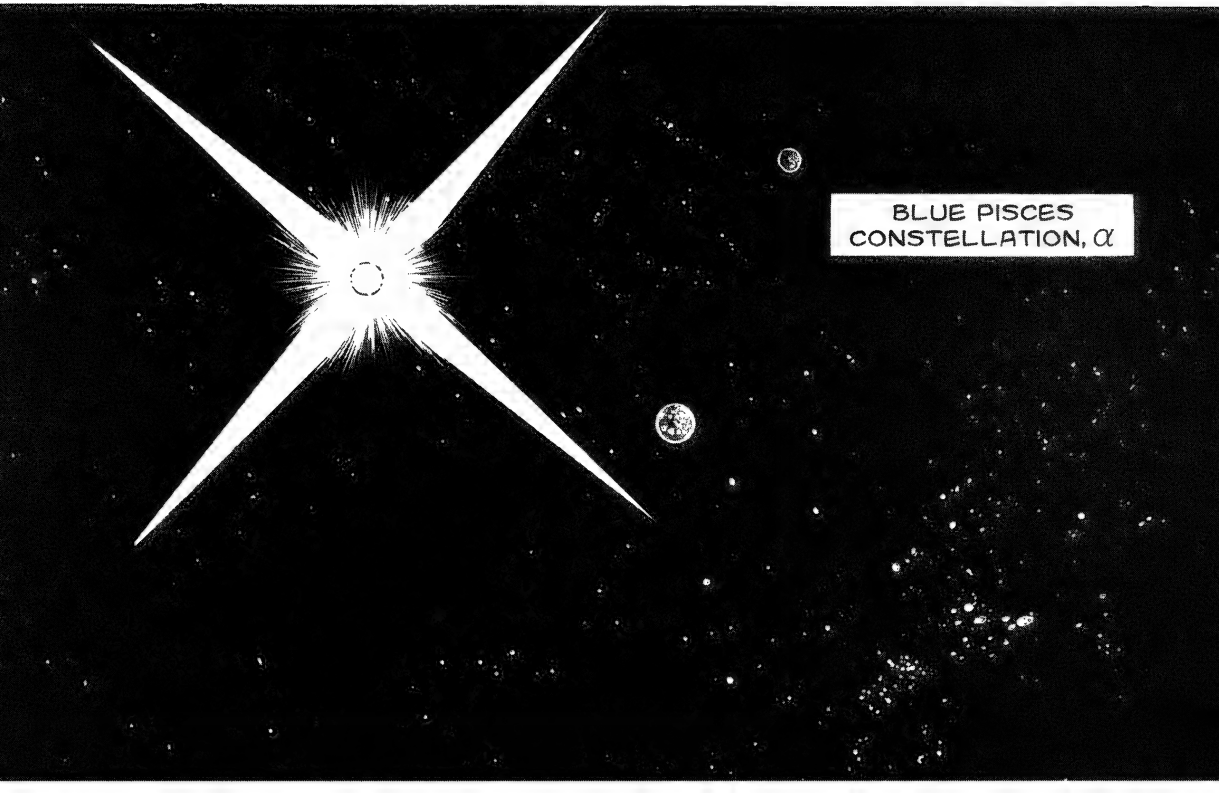

WHO WAS THAT KID...?

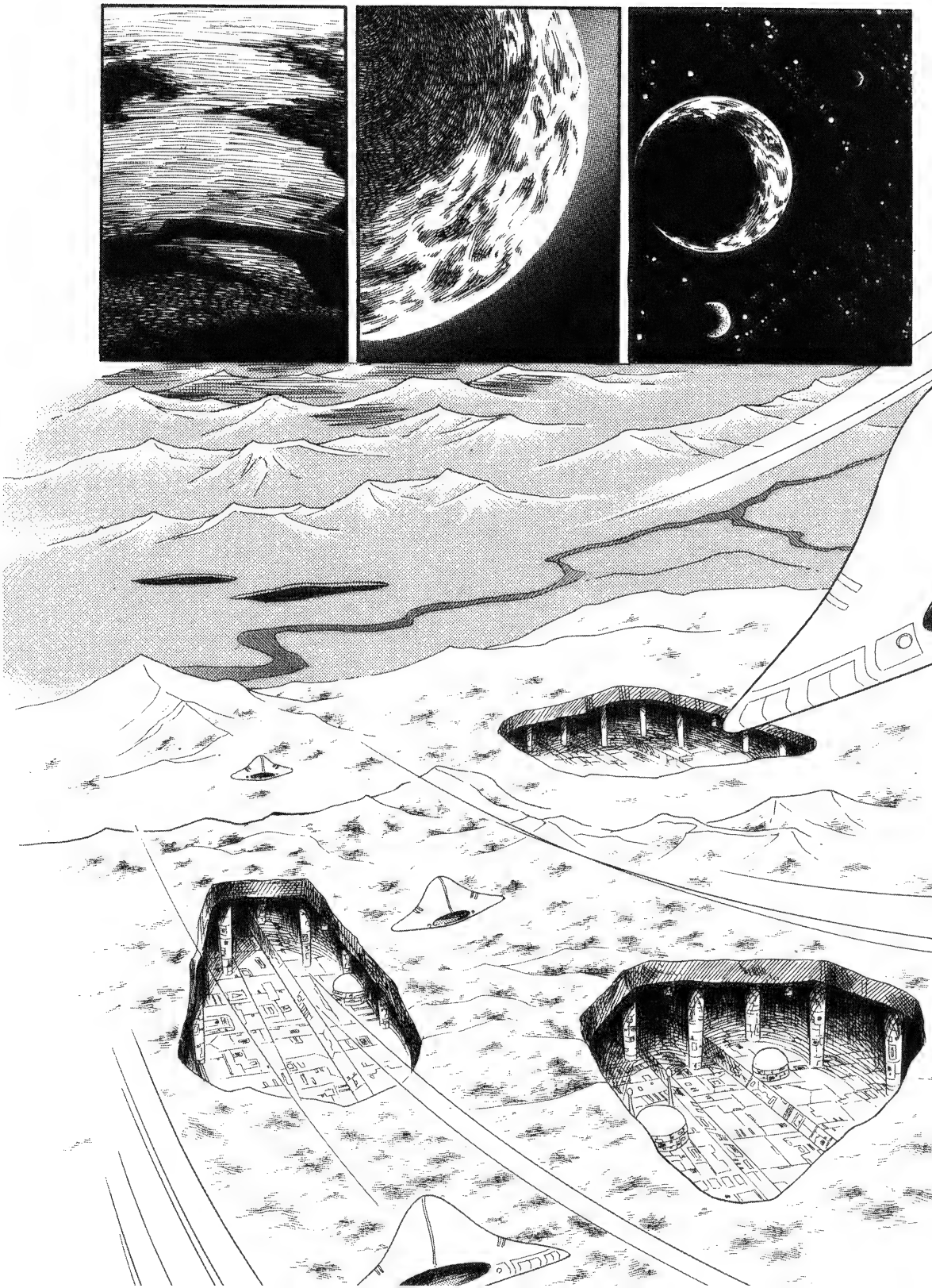


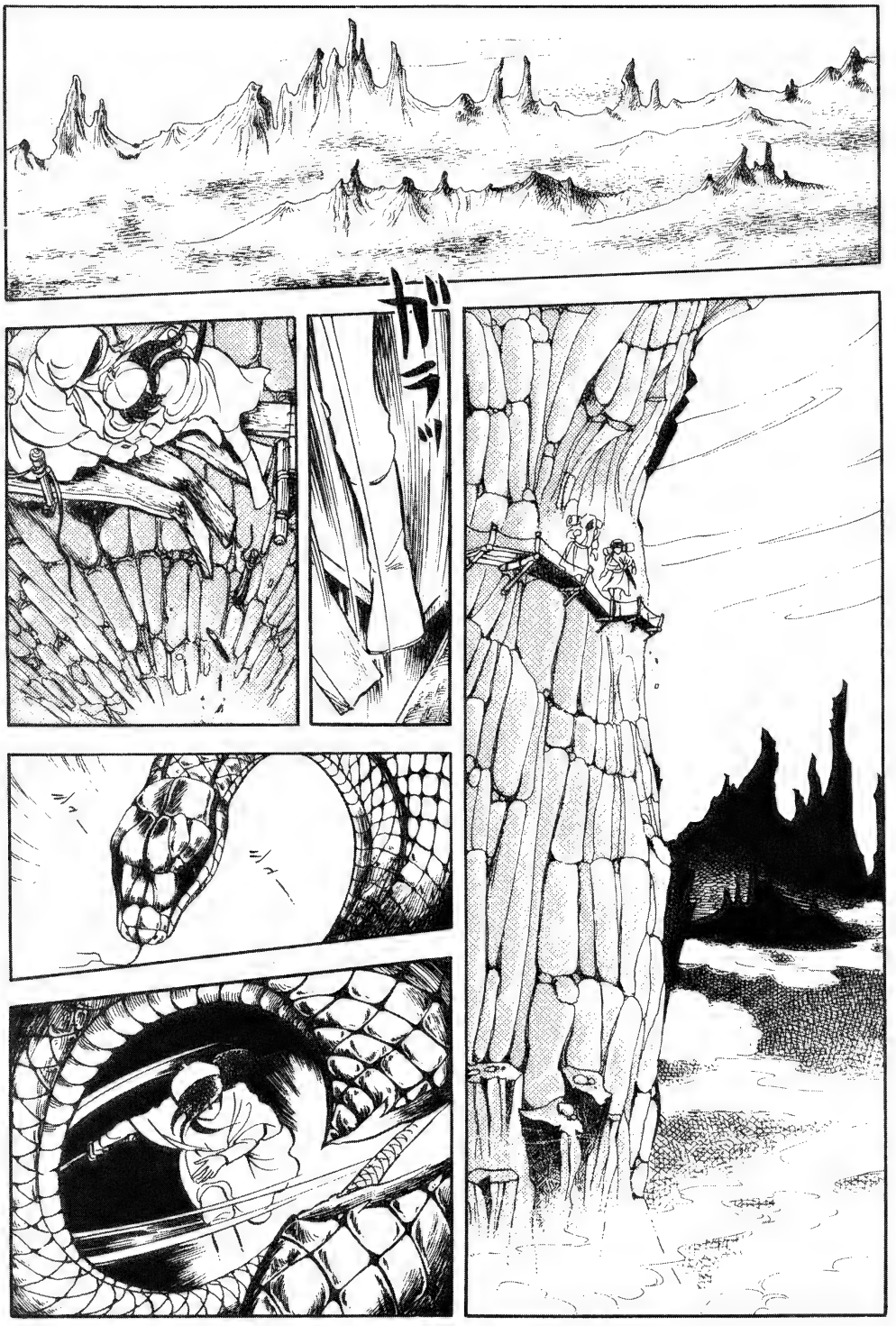

TOBIN POINT, SEND A RESCUE TEAM. THE ENEMY'S FOUND
US ...
CONTACT PRINCE JIMSA...
GLORY TO OUR MOTHER PLANET... MURAT ...
LONG LIVE THE PRINCE !
MEIMIEUR POINT A DESTROYED BY A SURPRISE ATTACK BY THE ENEMY!






BLUE PISCES
CONSTELLATION, α

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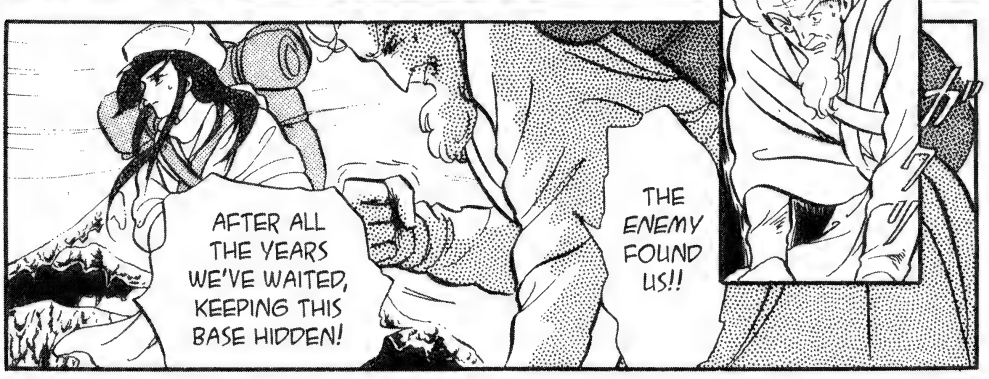
WHOA!
THE LAKE'S ALL DRIED UP?
MAYBE THE *ENEMY* IS WATCHING US FROM SOME-WHERE.
STRANGE...
YET NO ONE HAS COME TO MEET US.
STATION HOEACHIN SHOULD KNOW WE'RE NEAR FROM THEIR SURVEILLANCE MONITORS,

...


AFTER ALL THE YEARS WE'VE WAITED, KEEPING THIS BASE HIDDEN!
THE ENEMY FOUND US!!
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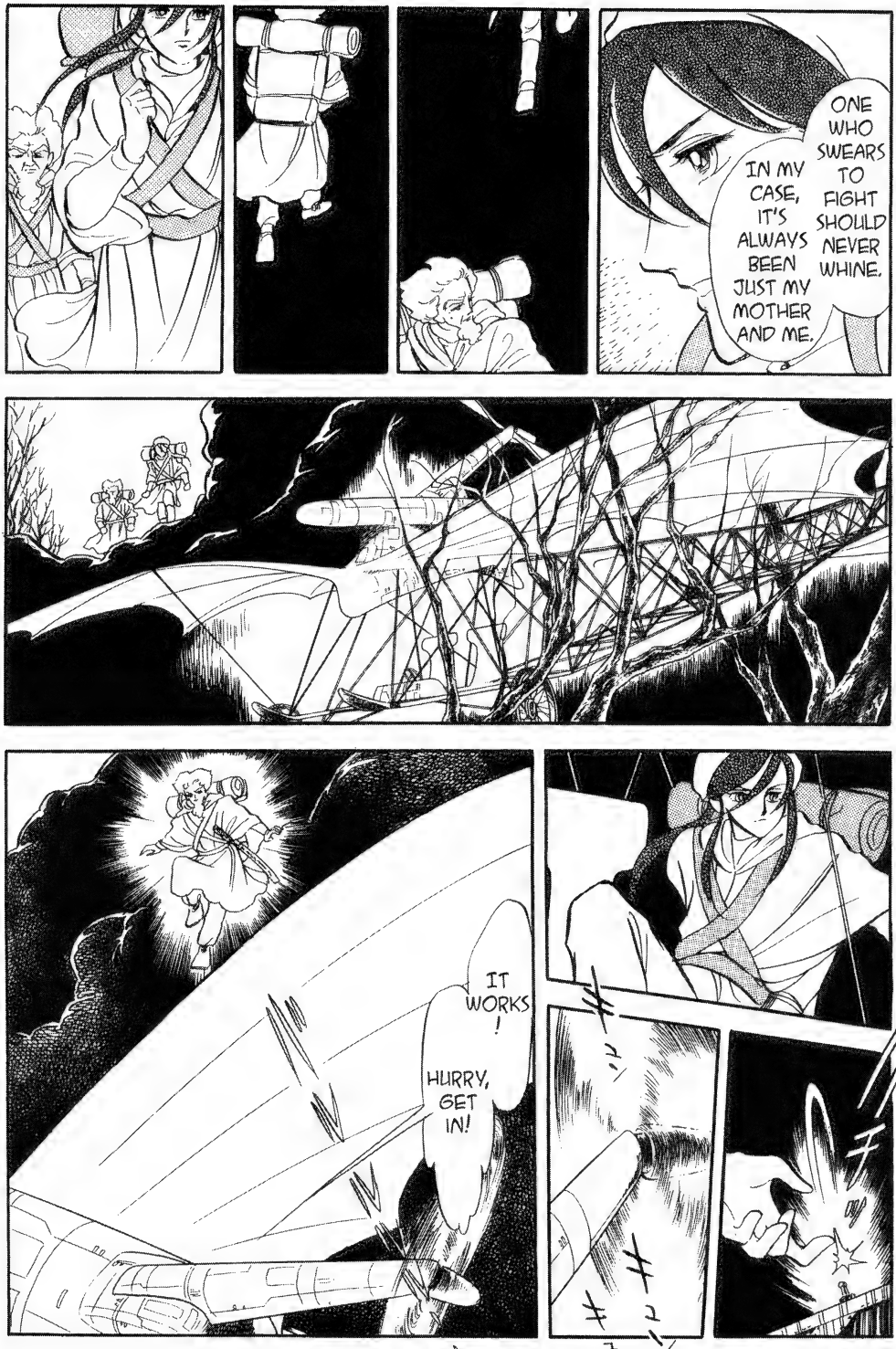
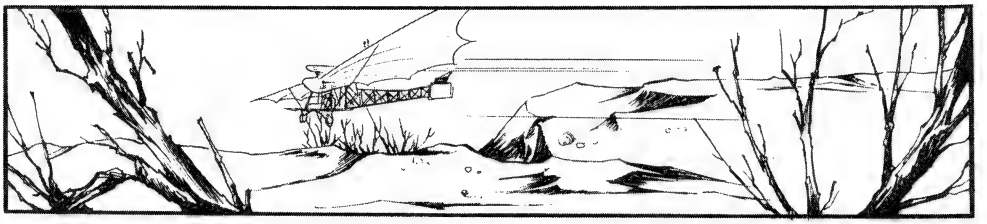
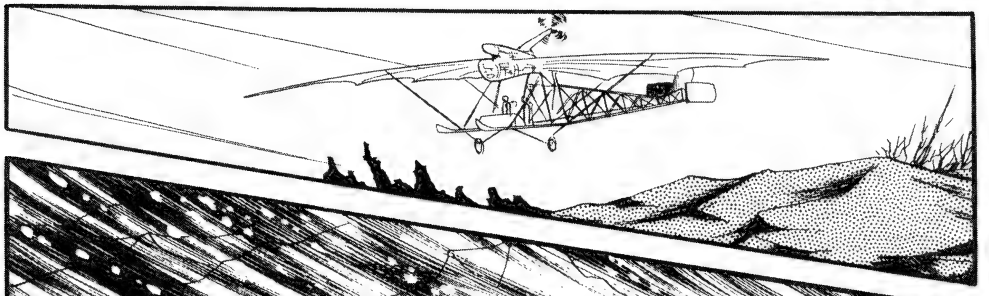
IF THIS BASE WON'T DO, LET'S MOVE ON TO THE NEXT.
WHY MOPE ?

HOW AWFUL ...


ONE WHO SWEARS TO FIGHT SHOULD NEVER WHINE.
IN MY CASE, IT'S ALWAYS BEEN JUST MY MOTHER AND ME.
IT WORKS!
HURRY, GET IN!





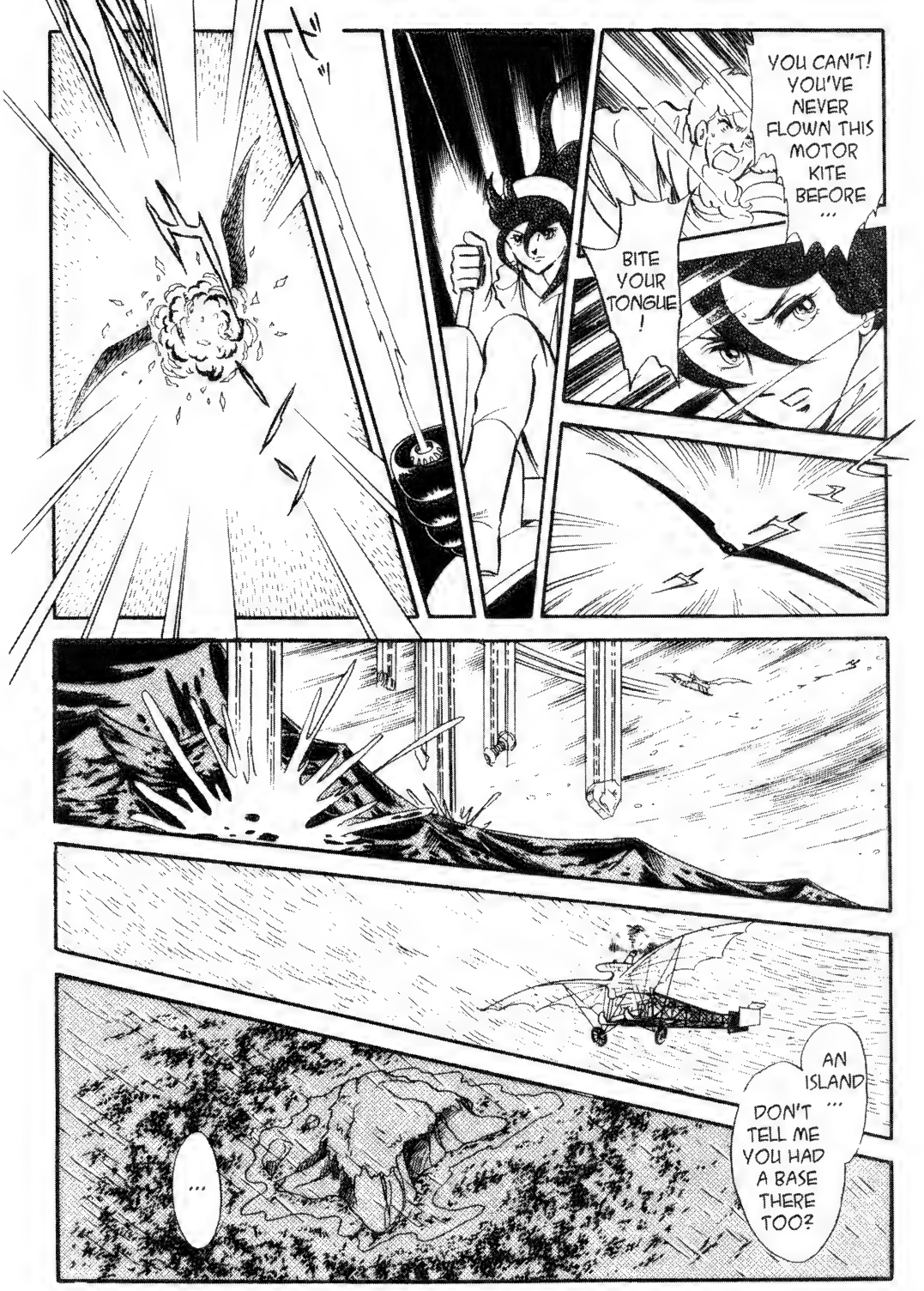
HOW COULD IT BE DEFEATED SO EASILY ?
HOEACHIN WAS A HIDEOUT ARMED WITH POWERFUL WEAPONS.

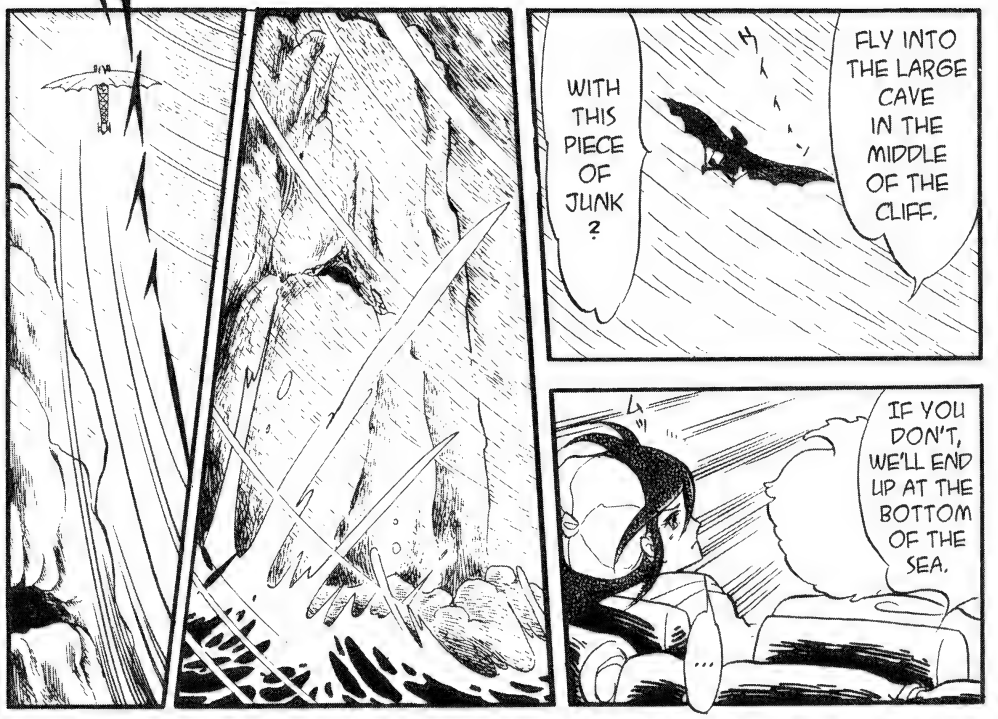
LOOK... OVER THERE!

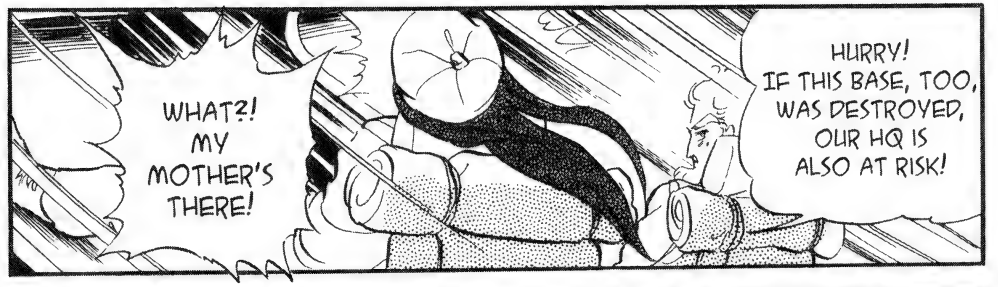
YOU DON'T UNDER-STAND!
OBVIOUSLY BECAUSE THEY WERE TOO STRONG.

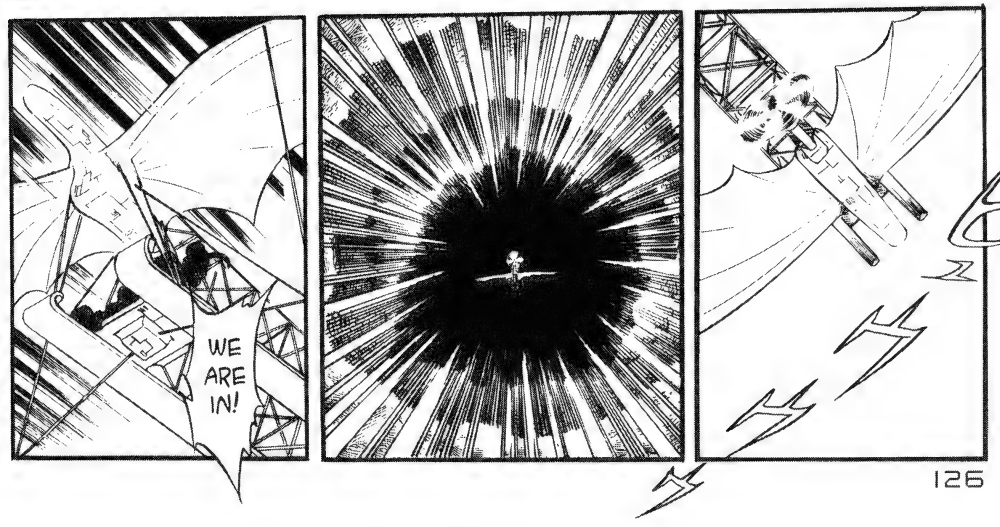
THE BASE SHOULD HAVE LASTED UNTIL OUR FINAL VICTORY.
WE KNEW THEIR CAPABILITIES AND THE ODDS WERE IN OUR FAVOR.

JUDGING FROM THIS, WE'VE LOST OTHER BASES TOO.
NO SURVIVORS, IT SEEMS.
IS THAT YOUR BASE, TOO ?
ON THE CUSP OF WAGING OUR WAR !!
WE'VE WAITED ALL THIS TIME
WE NEVER FOUGHT THEM, BUT THE ODDS WERE IN OUR FAVOR.
HANG TIGHT, ELDER!


YOU CAN'T! YOU'VE NEVER FLOWN THIS MOTOR KITE BEFORE ...
BITE YOUR TONGUE!
AN ISLAND ... DON'T TELL ME YOU HAD A BASE THERE TOO?
...


FLY INTO THE LARGE CAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE CLIFF.
WITH THIS PIECE OF JUNK?
IF YOU DON'T, WE'LL END UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.
...


HURRY! IF THIS BASE, TOO, WAS DESTROYED, OUR HQ IS ALSO AT RISK!
WHAT?! MY MOTHER'S THERE!

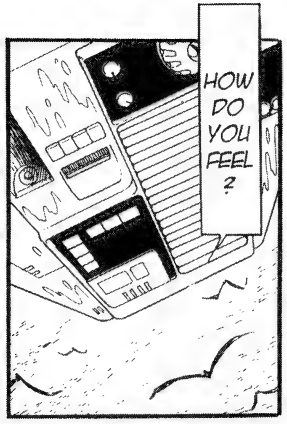

WE ARE IN!

LET'S GO BACK!
ANY-ONE THERE ?

LET'S HEAD BACK!
THEY'RE MORE ADVANCED THAN US WHEN IT COMES TO MACHINES. MA-CHINES ARE ONE WITH THEM.
THAT CAN'T BE!
WE TOOK MEASURES NOT TO BE DETECTED!
SEEMS TO HAVE TIPPED THEM OFF.
YOUR SIGNALING ALL THE BASES FROM THE CENTER
MOM!

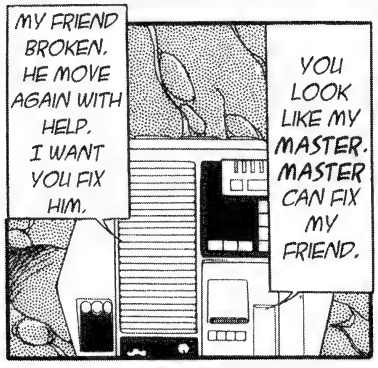
FURTHER...
FURTHER AHEAD!
I CAN'T SEE THROUGH THE BLIZZARD.
IS SHE ALL RIGHT?
...!
DON'T WASTE YOUR ENERGY. FOCUS ON FLYING THE KITE. YOU'RE BEING BLOWN AROUND.
WHO TORE HER AWAY FROM ME?
I WAS A FOOL TO JOIN AN ORGANIZATION THAT CAN'T EVEN PROTECT HER!
DON'T SAY THAT!

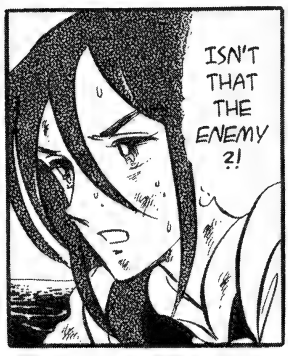
CRAP! THE RUDDER'S BUSTED.
JUNK KITE!
AT LEAST TAKE US TO LAND!
I DON'T NEED A FIGHT WITH ROBOT FISH.
ER!
AAAAAH
TSK! HE PASSED OUT.
ELDER!
ARE YOU OK?!

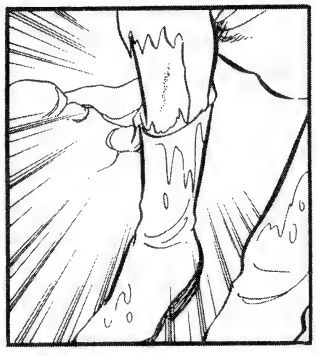

HOW DO YOU FEEL ?

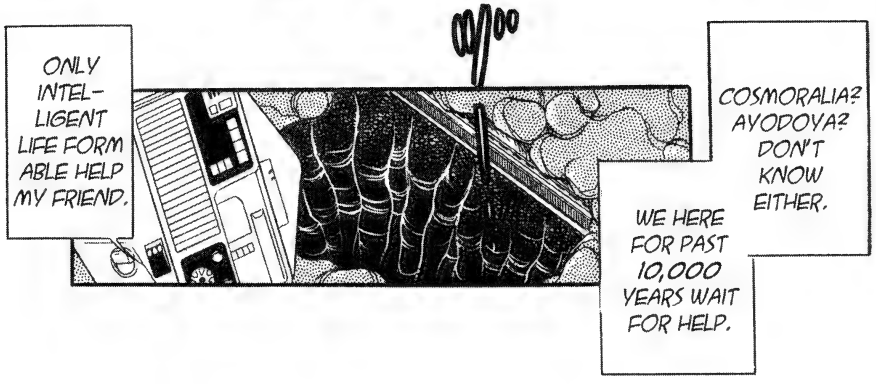
UMM ...

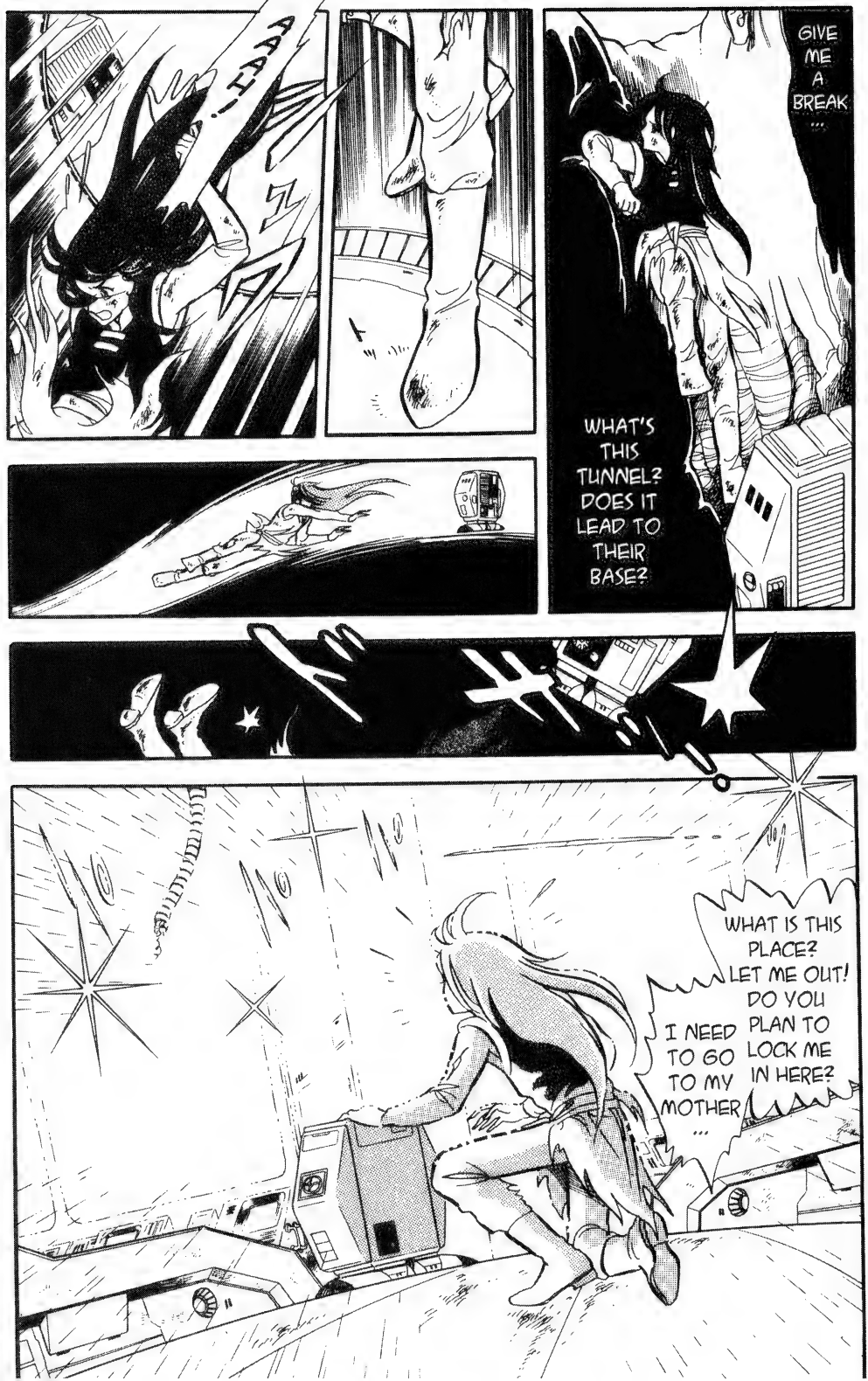
WAS THAT ALL RIGHT?
INJECTED YOU WITH ANALEPTIC AND TREATED INJURIES.
STAY AWAY !
WHAT DID YOU DO ?


MY FRIEND BROKEN. HE MOVE AGAIN WITH HELP. I WANT YOU FIX HIM.
YOU LOOK LIKE MY MASTER. MASTER CAN FIX MY FRIEND.


ISN'T THAT THE ENEMY ?!




ONLY INTEL-LIGENT LIFE FORM ABLE HELP MY FRIEND.
COSMORALIA? AYODOYA? DON'T KNOW EITHER.
WE HERE FOR PAST 10,000 YEARS WAIT FOR HELP.

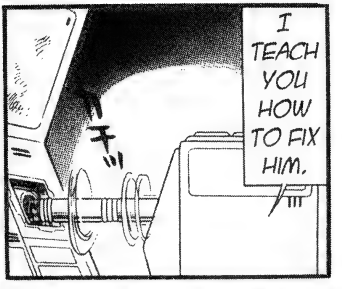

GIVE ME A BREAK ...
WHAT'S THIS TUNNEL? DOES IT LEAD TO THEIR BASE?
WHAT IS THIS PLACE? LET ME OUT! DO YOU PLAN TO LOCK ME IN HERE?
I NEED TO GO TO MY MOTHER ...

THIS MY FRIEND. I WANT YOU FIX HIM.
AH ...

AS MY FATHER DID.
HE LOOKS JUST LIKE A HUMAN ...

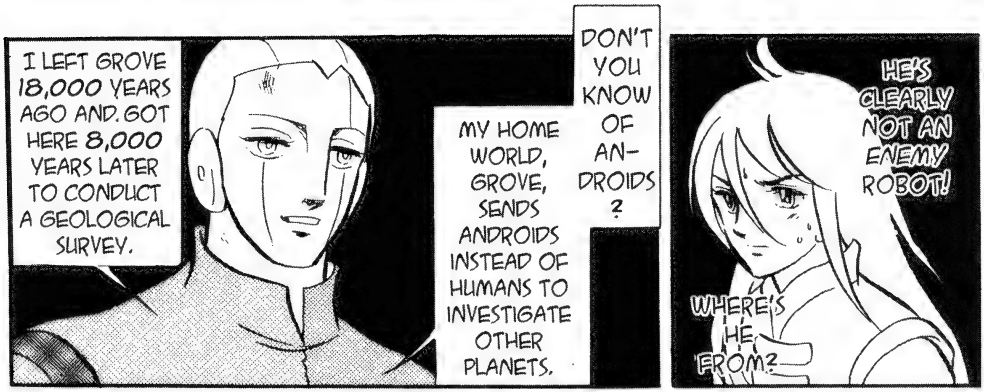
I CANNOT DO; I HAVE NO HANDS.
OPEN CHEST— JUST CONNECT YELLOW POINT TO BLUE POINT.

I REFUSE TO EVEN TOUCH A ROBOT. NOW LET ME OUT OF HERE! IF YOU DON'T, I'LL...

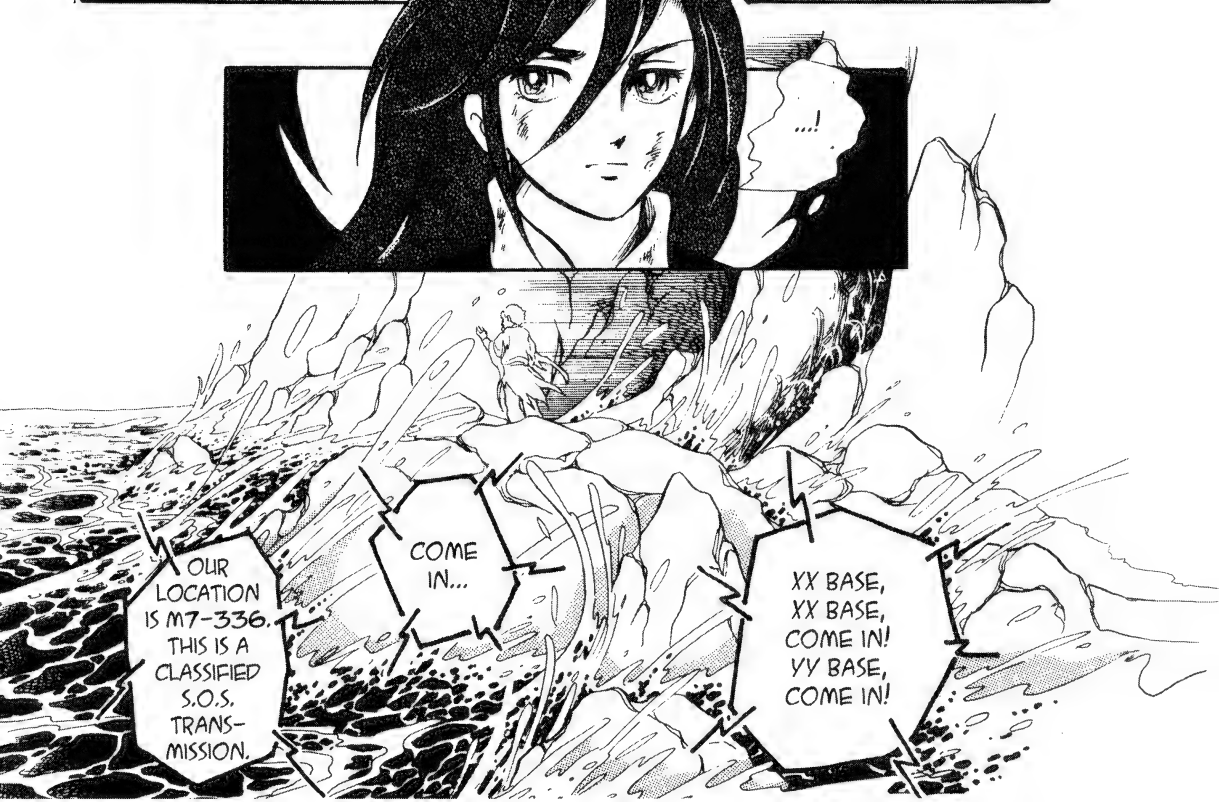

I TEACH YOU HOW TO FIX HIM.

...NO THANKS !

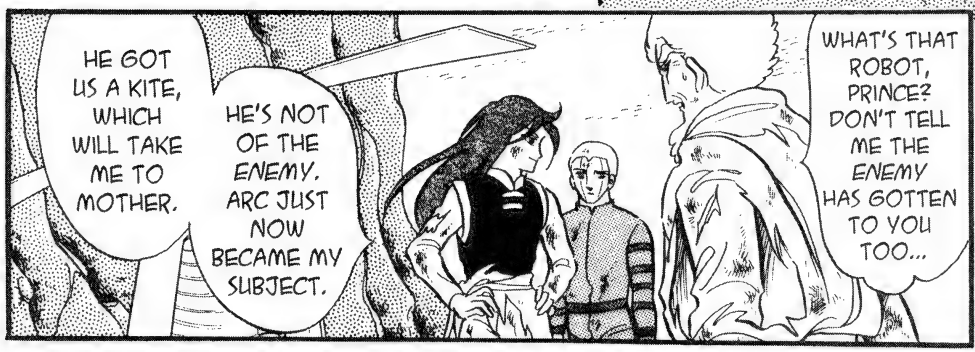
THEN I'LL BLOW THIS PLACE UP IF NEED BE TO GET OUT.
FINE... 5 MINUTES, THAT'S IT
WE WAITED 10,000 YEARS. YOU CAN WAIT 5 MINUTES.
PLEASE! LET ME GO. I MUST GO— MY MOTHER'S IN DANGER.
THE REST ARE HEAPS OF RUSTED METAL.
PERHAPS IT'S TRUE THIS ONE'S "ALIVE"...
I'M ARC, A W MODEL ANDROID.
BUT, THANK YOU.
THANKS. I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE.
THIS IS BETH— A MEDIUM-SIZE WORK ROBOT, MODEL SS.
OK ...
DONE.

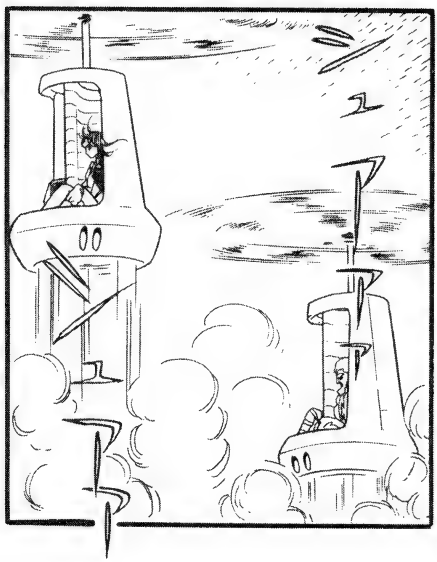

I LEFT GROVE 18,000 YEARS AGO AND GOT HERE 8,000 YEARS LATER TO CONDUCT A GEOLOGICAL SURVEY.
MY HOME WORLD, GROVE, SENDS ANDROIDS INSTEAD OF HUMANS TO INVESTIGATE OTHER PLANETS.
DON'T YOU KNOW OF AN-DROIDS?
HE'S CLEARLY NOT AN ENEMY ROBOT!
WHERE'S HE FROM?

YOU RESEMBLE OUR MASTER. WE ARE AT YOUR DISPOSAL.
OUR ORDERS ARE TO KEEP WORKING AS LONG AS WE'RE STILL FUNCTIONAL.
BETH AND I SURVIVED, BUT NOW AFTER 10,000 YEARS WE CAN NO LONGER CONTACT OUR HOME WORLD.
MY COMRADES WERE ALL DESTROYED IN A SOFT LANDING ACCIDENT.

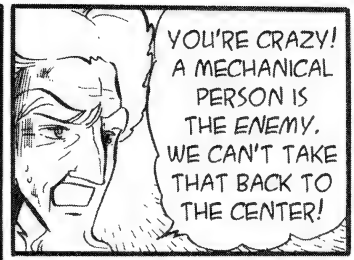

...!
OUR LOCATION IS M7-336. THIS IS A CLASSIFIED S.O.S. TRANS-MISSION.
COME IN...
XX BASE, XX BASE, COME IN! YY BASE, COME IN!

AH ...
I WAS AFRAID YOU KILLED YOURSELF,
BUT YOU'RE WELL ENOUGH TO BE MAKING TRANSMISSIONS.
IT'S NO USE, THOUGH. ALL THE BASES HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.
OR DO YOU STILL HAVE OTHER HIDDEN BASES?


WHAT'S THAT ROBOT, PRINCE? DON'T TELL ME THE *ENEMY* HAS GOTTEN TO YOU TOO...
HE'S NOT OF THE *ENEMY*. ARC JUST NOW BECAME MY SUBJECT.
HE GOT US A KITE, WHICH WILL TAKE ME TO MOTHER.



...!


YOU'RE CRAZY! A MECHANICAL PERSON IS THE *ENEMY*. WE CAN'T TAKE THAT BACK TO THE CENTER!

IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, SHRIVEL UP HERE ALONE.

JUST AS THE FORTUNE-TELLER PREDICTED! THEY'RE HERE.
MOVE OUT!
RUN TO OUR NEXT LOCA-TION.
DON'T LOOK BACK!
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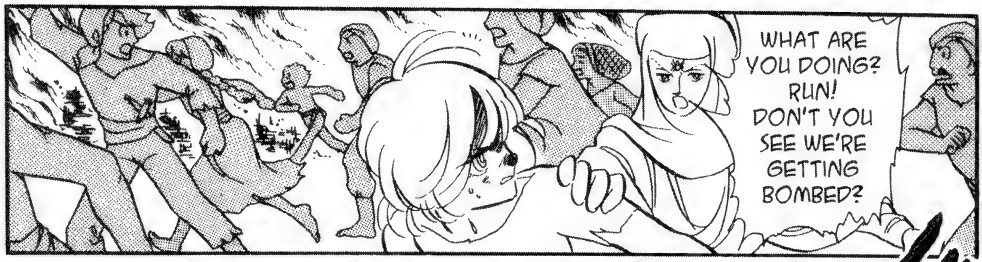
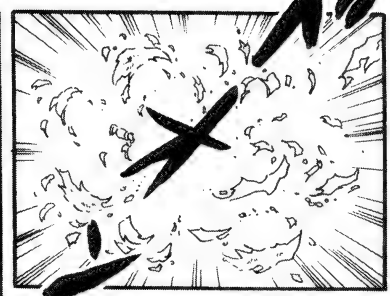
YOU'LL BE KILLED IF YOU RESIST!
DON'T FIGHT BACK. RUN WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT!

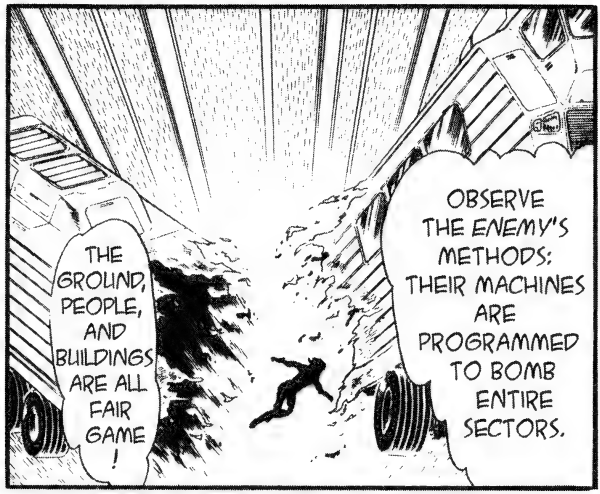

WHAT ARE YOU DOING? RUN! DON'T YOU SEE WE'RE GETTING BOMBED?

THIS IS NO TIME TO ARGUE.
I HATE SHOWING OUR BACKS TO THE ENEMY.

COME!
I'M SICK OF IT! HOW'S RUNNING GOING TO HELP?



DON'T TOUCH ME!


THE GROUND, PEOPLE, AND BUILDINGS ARE ALL FAIR GAME!
OBSERVE THE *ENEMY*'S METHODS: THEIR MACHINES ARE PROGRAMMED TO BOMB ENTIRE SECTORS.

HMPH
BY RELYING ON YOU?

LISTEN, YOUR FATHER'S SHARP INSTINCTS HAVE PROTECTED THE GROUP THUS FAR.

ANT?
THE BOSS KNOWS THAT WELL.
NO ONE NOTICES THE ANT THAT SCURRIES AWAY WHEN THE LAND'S TILLED.

STOP, YOU FOOL!
IF YOU RESIST, YOU'LL BE CRUSHED WITHOUT MERCY!

SON OF A...!

LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE! WHILE WE WERE ARGUING THEY GOT MY LEG.

SEER!

WHAT DID I TELL YOU, YOU STUBBORN CHILD?
IF YOU WANT TO TEST THE ENEMY, I'LL DO IT FOR YOU.
YOU STAY PUT THERE.

!!
ガチャ☆
ジュッ!

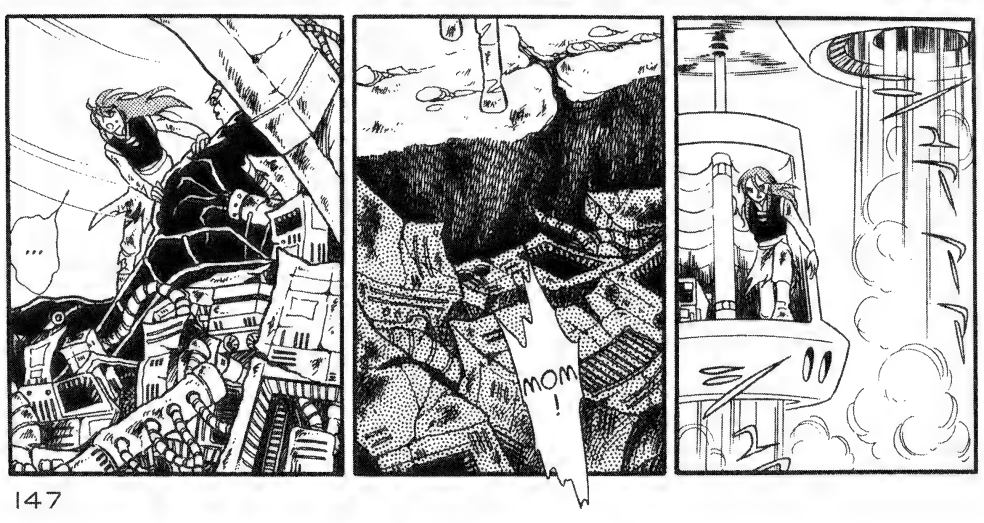
YOU'RE A...
GET IN THAT CAVE.
I'VE RAISED A SHIELD. WE'RE SAFE.
LET ME TREAT YOUR ...
OW!

SO YOU KNOW ...
THAT'S A HARSH REACTION. I DON'T INTEND TO TELL ANYONE YOUR SECRET.
IF I WANT TO, MY EYES CAN SEE INTO YOUR BODY.
WHAT DID YOU JUST SAY, ROBOT?
WHAT ...
YOU'RE A CREEPY CYBORG. I WON'T LET YOU TOUCH ME!
WE HAVE SIMILAR SECRETS. LET'S MAKE A DEAL.
MY NAME IS IL. WHEN THE TIME COMES, YOU'LL SEE.
I'M A BIT DIFFERENT FROM THE ENEMY ROBOTS.
I BET IF THE MURAT ELDER KNEW OF YOU, HE'D DANCE FOR JOY.
YOU'RE A LOT MORE PRINCELY THAN THE OTHER PRINCE.

YOUR WOUNDS WILL HEAL IN A FEW DAYS.
THEY'RE SURE TO BE FRANTICALLY SEARCHING FOR YOU.
GO CATCH UP WITH YOUR FOLKS WHEN YOU WAKE UP.
...!

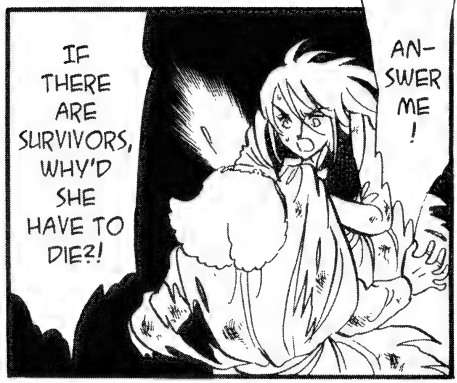
THAT'S SOME POWER!
THE GROUND'S BEEN TORN UP WHERE THE BASE USED TO BE.
...!

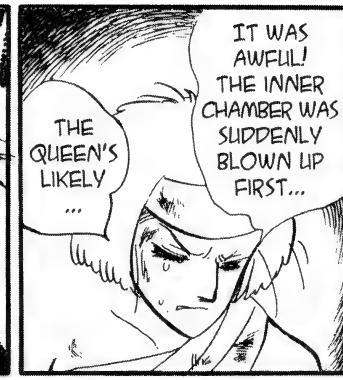
ROGER, DESCEN-DING.
HURRY, LET ME OFF!
INTERESTING. THEY ONLY DESTROYED UP TO AN ARBITRARY LINE.

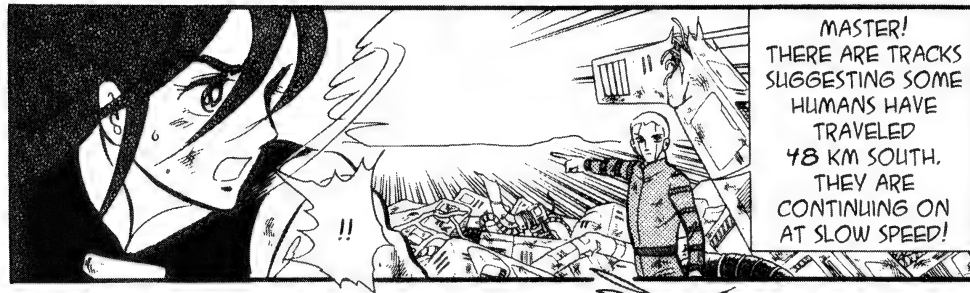

...
MOM!

MOM!
M...
MOM...
MASTER'S EMOTIONS OUT OF CONTROL.
NO VITAL SIGNS YET.
AGREED.
ピロ
VITAL SIGNS ...
WHY? WHY DID I LEAVE MY MOTHER BEHIND?
I WAS TAKEN IN BY THAT OLD FOOL'S SLICK WORDS.

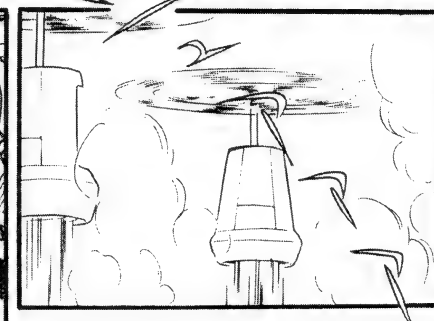
WHA ...!
HUMANOID LIFE SIGNS BEYOND LEAD WALL.
THE WALL TO THE PANIC ROOM! QUICK, GET THEM OUT OF THERE!
YOU'RE ALIVE! I WAS WORRIED SICK THAT YOU WERE ALL DEAD.
ONLY 8 OF US MADE IT.
FORGIVE US, ELDER! IT WASN'T SUPPOSED TO TURN OUT LIKE THIS !
ガクガク
NOT SO ROUGH! HE'S INJURED !
YOU !
WHERE'S MY MOTHER? YOU SWORE ON YOUR LIVES TO PROTECT HER!
P... PRINCE !


IF THERE ARE SURVIVORS, WHY'D SHE HAVE TO DIE?!
AN-SWER ME!


THE QUEEN'S LIKELY ...
IT WAS AWFUL! THE INNER CHAMBER WAS SUDDENLY BLOWN UP FIRST...


!!
MASTER! THERE ARE TRACKS SUGGESTING SOME HUMANS HAVE TRAVELED 48 KM SOUTH. THEY ARE CONTINUING ON AT SLOW SPEED!

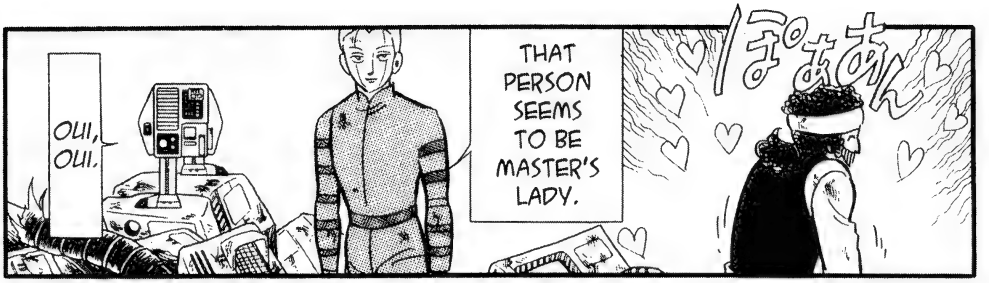
WHY BRING A THINKING MACHINE TO OUR BASE ?!
EVEN IF THEY'RE NOT OF THE *ENEMY*, THEY'RE STILL MACHINES.
ELDER! WHAT ARE THOSE ROBOTS ?
YEAH ...

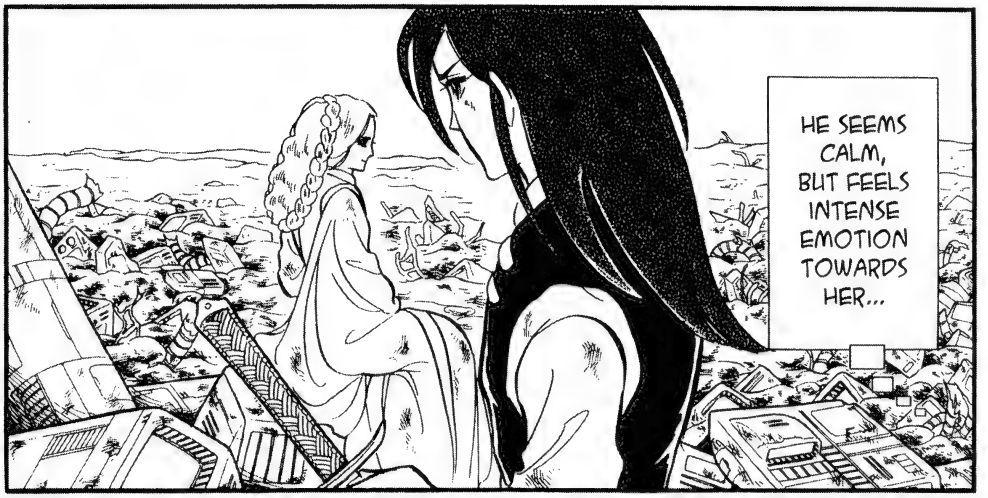


BRAVO, GLADIATOR BALGA...
WELL
HA HA,
NOTHING TO IT! THE QUEEN WAS TAKING A WALK OUTSIDE WHEN THE BOMB HIT.
I JUST GRABBED HER HAND AND RAN...
THE ENEMY DIDN'T FOLLOW YOU?
THE MACHINES WERE SO FOCUSED ON BOMBING THEY WEREN'T INTERESTED IN US.

I HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND PEOPLE MUCH
SO I DON'T KNOW HOW TO EXPRESS MY THANKS ...
NONSENSE, PRINCE JIMSA! I WAS SUPPOSED TO BE YOUR BODYGUARD IN COSMORALIA.

IT WAS BOTHERING ME THAT I HADN'T FULFILLED MY DUTIES.
WHAAAA
MAY YOU ALWAYS BE FAVORED BY THE FATES OF THE UNIVERSE.
PRINCE JIMSA !!

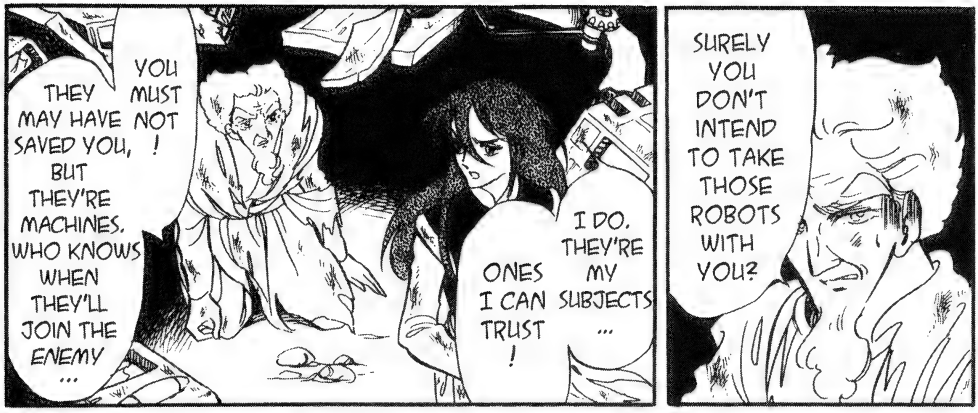

OUI, OUI.
THAT PERSON SEEMS TO BE MASTER'S LADY.


HE SEEMS CALM, BUT FEELS INTENSE EMOTION TOWARDS HER...

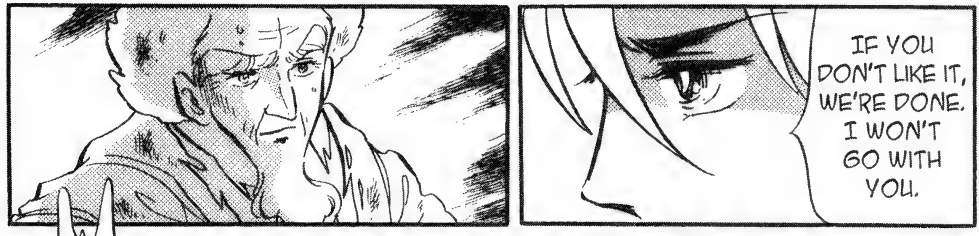
DON'T BE ABSURD! YOU JUST FORGOT ABOUT THAT ONE...
MY MEMORY'S QUITE GOOD. BUT KEEP UP YOUR DECEPTION IF YOU WISH.

AS I THOUGHT: THIS IS THE FIRST I'VE HEARD OF THAT BASE. I'M SURE YOU HAVE EVEN MORE CARDS UP YOUR SLEEVE.
フフン

WHAT IS IT, ELDER?
THE OTHERS AND I HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE TO THE CHANOUX BASE, WHICH SHOULD STILL BE INTACT.


THEY MAY HAVE SAVED YOU, BUT THEY'RE MACHINES. WHO KNOWS WHEN THEY'LL JOIN THE ENEMY ...
YOU MUST NOT !
ONES I CAN TRUST !
I DO. THEY'RE MY SUBJECTS ...
SURELY YOU DON'T INTEND TO TAKE THOSE ROBOTS WITH YOU?

THE ENEMY IS BUILDING A UTOPIA FOR MACHINES !
YOUR HIGHNESS DOESN'T KNOW THE ENEMY. COUNTLESS TIMES THEY'VE LURED OUR COMPUTERS IN AND MADE THEM GO HAYWIRE.
NEED I SAY MORE ?
I TRUST THEM MORE THAN YOU.


IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT, WE'RE DONE. I WON'T GO WITH YOU.

PRINCE JIMSA!
YOU'D BETRAY THOSE WHO PLEDGED THEIR LOYALTY TO YOU?!

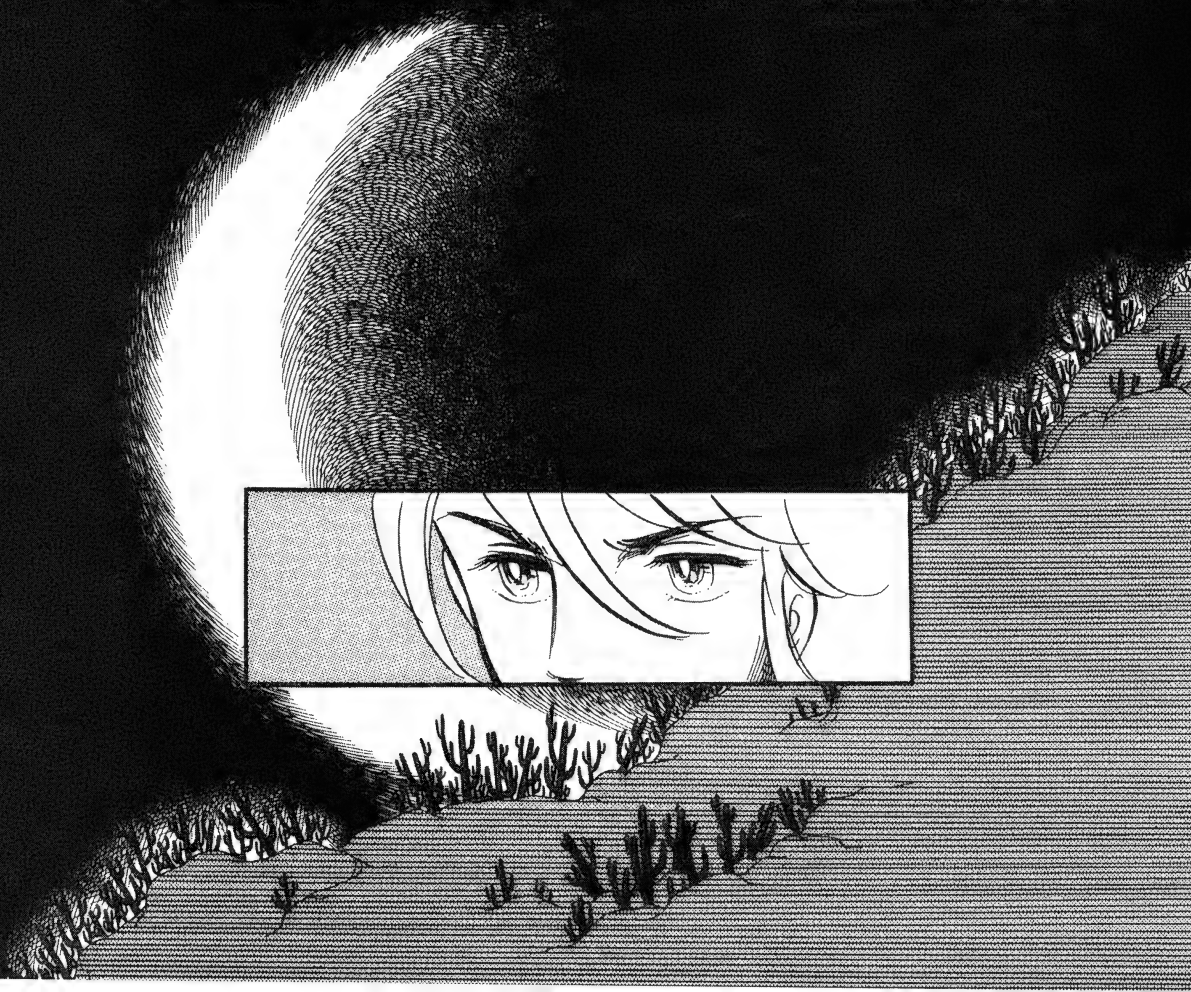
ELDER! IS IT TRUE THAT PRINCE JIMSA HAS LEFT?
TRUE, INDEED.
HE'S STRONG-WILLED. IF WE STOP HIM NOW, HE'LL JUST PULL AWAY EVEN MORE.
I KNOW WHERE HE WENT: BACK TO THOSE ROBOTS' BASE.
WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT ...
PERHAPS THE OTHER PRINCE SHOULD BECOME OUR LEADER.
LEAVE ME. I SHALL RETIRE TO BED.
WAIT, BALGA. YOU STAY.
LET'S HEAR ABOUT THIS OTHER PRINCE ...

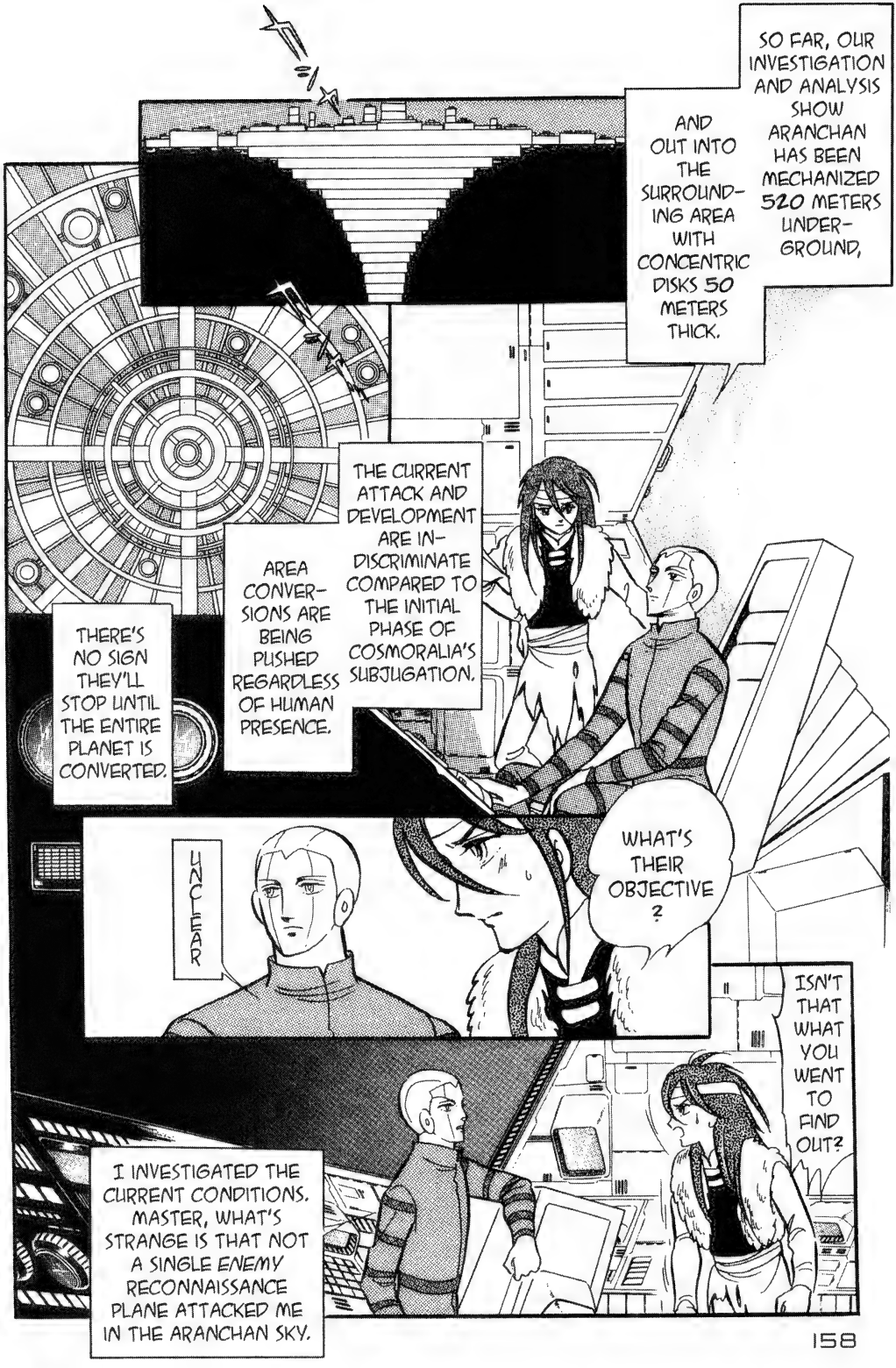
AH, UH...
WHAT!...
NOTHING. YOU MAY LEAVE.
?
WHO'D HAVE GUESSED...
THAT I'D COME ACROSS A SECRET UNBE-KNOWNST TO THE QUEEN AND PRINCE JIMSA!

PRINCE JIMSA!
MY LOYALTY BELONGS TO YOU,

EVEN IF THE OTHER PRINCE IS 8TH GENERATION MURAT,

...



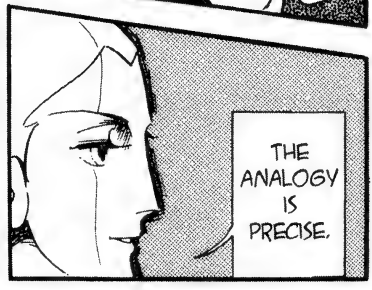

SO FAR, OUR INVESTIGATION AND ANALYSIS SHOW ARANCHAN HAS BEEN MECHANIZED 520 METERS UNDER-GROUND,
AND OUT INTO THE SURROUND-ING AREA WITH CONCENTRIC DISKS 50 METERS THICK.
THE CURRENT ATTACK AND DEVELOPMENT ARE IN-DISCRIMINATE COMPARED TO THE INITIAL PHASE OF COSMORALIA'S SUBJUGATION.
AREA CONVER-SIONS ARE BEING PUSHED REGARDLESS OF HUMAN PRESENCE.
THERE'S NO SIGN THEY'LL STOP UNTIL THE ENTIRE PLANET IS CONVERTED.
WHAT'S THEIR OBJECTIVE ?
UNCLEAR
ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WENT TO FIND OUT?
I INVESTIGATED THE CURRENT CONDITIONS. MASTER, WHAT'S STRANGE IS THAT NOT A SINGLE ENEMY RECONNAISSANCE PLANE ATTACKED ME IN THE ARANCHAN SKY.

EVEN THOUGH THEY SURELY HAD ME IN THEIR SIGHTS.
I WAS PREPARED FOR THE WORST, BUT THEY COMPLETELY IGNORED ME,
I THOUGHT IT'D BE TOUGH JUST TO GET NEAR!
WHAT ?!

DEFENSE ARISES FROM FEAR.
IT MAKES SENSE GIVEN THE SCALE OF THE CONVERSION.
IT CAN'T BE!
SO WE CAN FREELY GO IN AND OUT OF ARANCHAN ?

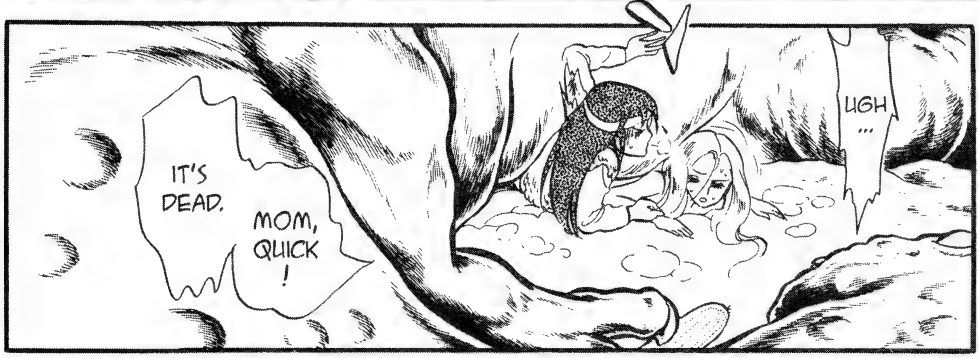
WHY SO ANGRY? MASTER, IT'S IMPORTANT WE ASSESS THE ENEMY'S STRENGTH.

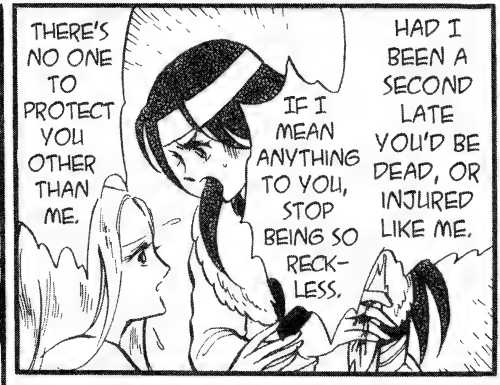
SO HUMANS ARE SEEN AS HARMLESS FLIES AS LONG WE DON'T DO ANY DAMAGE.

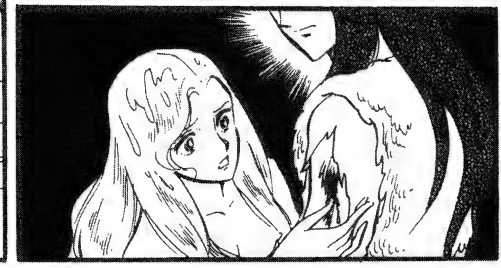

THE ANALOGY IS PRECISE.

ジャワワ
FEELS GOOD. HEAT UP THE WATER A BIT MORE...
...
JIMSA! HOW ABOUT A BATH?
ふうう
THERE'S NO RUNNING WATER OR TUB HERE. IT WASN'T MADE FOR HUMANS, WAS IT?
CAN CONVERT IT TO FIT YOUR NEEDS, LADY.
MOM, IT'S DANGEROUS TO TAKE A BATH THERE.
DON'T WORRY. THE WATER FEELS GOOD.
ARE YOU RENOUNCING YOUR PRINCEHOOD?
AFTER HE'S DONE SO MUCH FOR US?
TELL ME, JIMSA. WHY DO YOU RUN FROM THE ELDER
PLEASE GET OUT. THERE ARE SNOW DRAGONS IN THE AREA!

THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO DISCUSS IT.
IF YOU WON'T GET OUT, I'LL COME GET YOU!
TRY IT IF YOU DARE,
MY RUDE CHILD!
.303


IT'S DEAD.
MOM, QUICK!
UGH...


THERE'S NO ONE TO PROTECT YOU OTHER THAN ME.
IF I MEAN ANYTHING TO YOU, STOP BEING SO RECK-LESS.
HAD I BEEN A SECOND LATE YOU'D BE DEAD, OR INJURED LIKE ME.



IF KILLING HUMANS OFF WERE THEIR GOAL, THEY'D USE A SIMPLER METHOD.
IN TIME ONLY THE MECHANICAL ONES WILL REMAIN, LEAVING US WITH NO FOOD.

MECHANICAL DRAGONS AND FISH ARE EATING REAL DRAGONS AND FISH. THIS IS PART OF THE ENEMY'S PLAN.
HMM... IT APPERS THIS SNOW DRAGON BATTLED A MECHANICAL ONE AND DIED WHILE FLEEING.

IT MAY HAVE TO DO WITH MECHANICAL AESTHETICS
NOT SURE...
ガバ
THEN WHAT ARE THEY DOING?

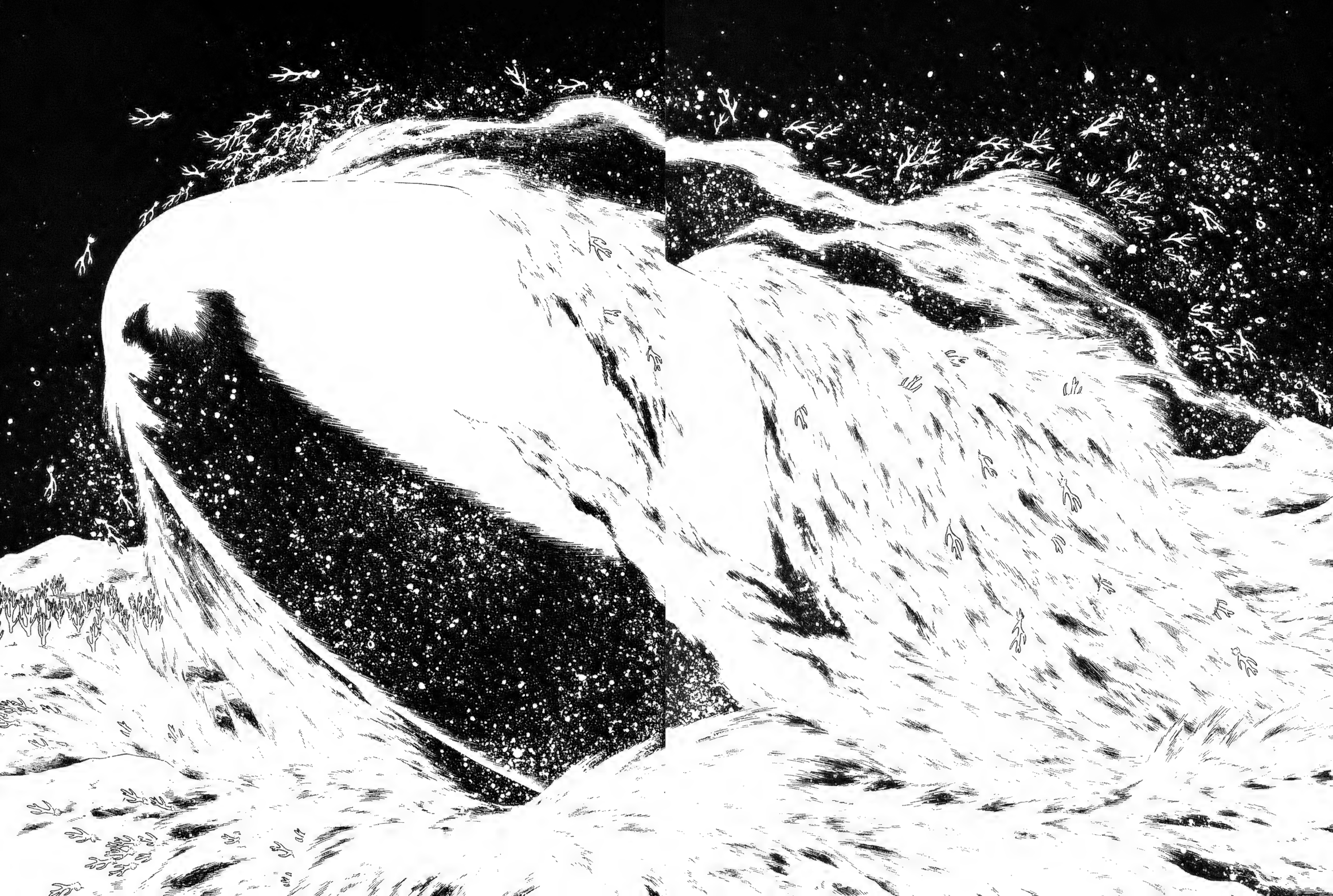
AESTHETICS?

IT WAS REFLEX...
SORRY. YOUR THEORY IS PROBABLY RIGHT...

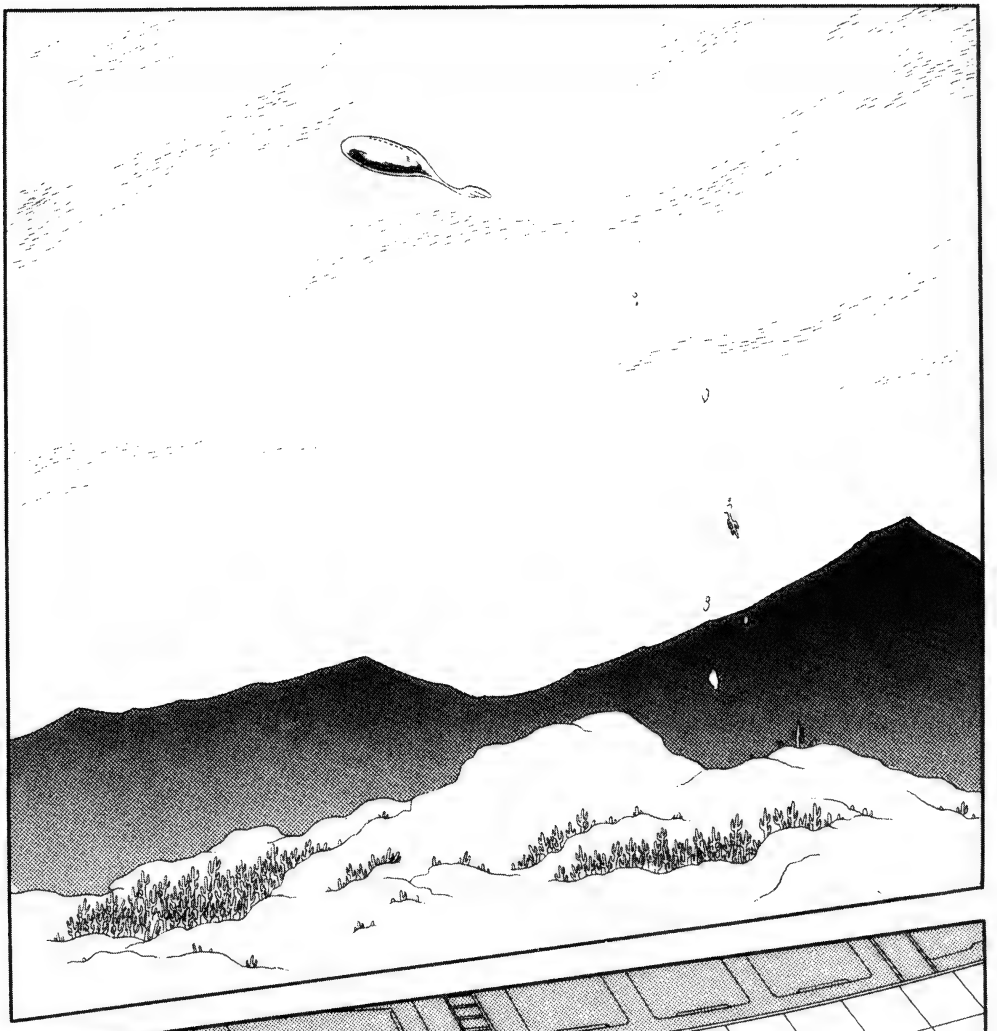
THE MECHANICAL DRAGONS AND FISH LOOK MORE BEAUTIFUL TO ME.

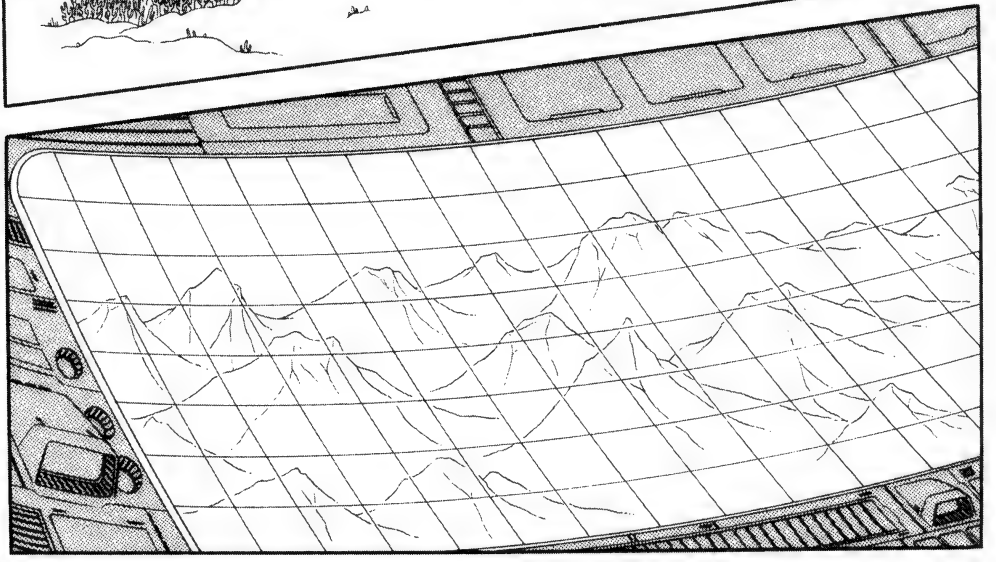
OH, JIMSA, HOW SAVAGE!
EITHER WAY, MASTER, THE ENEMY IS THAT POWERFUL.
WE CAN'T AFFORD INFIGHTING WITH ONLY 4 OF US.
WHAT NOW?
YOU CAN'T FIGHT OFF THEIR INVASION.
I DON'T KNOW...
...
JIMSA!
SO YOU MEAN... I SHOULD GO TO ARAN-CHAN?
RATHER THAN ITS LIMBS.
AS LADY SAYS, IT'S JUST THE 4 OF US. LET'S LOOK AT THE ENEMY'S BELLY

BY TAKING THIS SHIP, OF COURSE.
HOW WOULD WE GO? I HEAR YOU CAN'T EVEN WALK ON THE OTHER SIDE OF MT. TOBIN.
SHIP?
HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN THE KING'S FATE?
YOU'RE ASKING TO BE CAPTURED.
NO, JIMSA. YOU MUST NOT!
IT STILL WORKS FINE. WE MAY NEED ITS WEAPONS AT SOME POINT.
W... WHAT?!



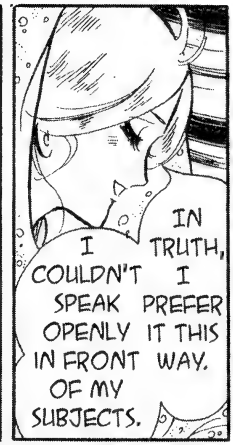
ALTITUDE 100. CLIMBING SMOOTHLY.
LET US OFF, ARC! W...WHAT IS THIS?!





THE SIZE OF THIS SHIP MAY MAKE THE ENEMY THINK IT'S AN ATTACK.
I TEND TO FLY HIGH WORRYING ABOUT THE ENEMY.
SORRY, I DIDN'T NOTICE, MOM.
I'M JUST HAPPY YOU DIDN'T LEAVE ME BEHIND.
I'LL BE FINE.
THIN AIR MAKE LADY SUFFER.
FLY LOWER, MASTER. ALTITUDE TOO HIGH.
WE FLEW OVER A FEW NOMADS IN THE BADLANDS.
WHAT DID THEY MAKE OF THIS SHIP?
THERE'S THE TOBIN RANGE, MASTER.
WE'LL TAKE THE KITES FROM HERE. WE SHOULDN'T STICK OUT.
THESE KITES WON'T STAND A CHANCE IF WE COME UNDER ATTACK.
WILL THE ENEMY REALLY NOT RESIST US ?

MY THROAT'S PARCHED
FROM FEAR ...

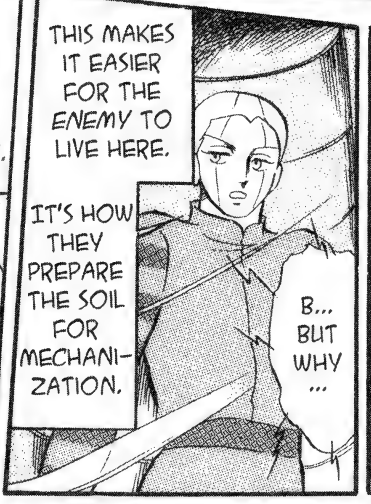

I COULDN'T SPEAK OPENLY IN FRONT OF MY SUBJECTS.
IN TRUTH, I PREFER IT THIS WAY.

I TOLD YOU, THERE'S NO ONE LEFT TO PROTECT YOU BUT ME!

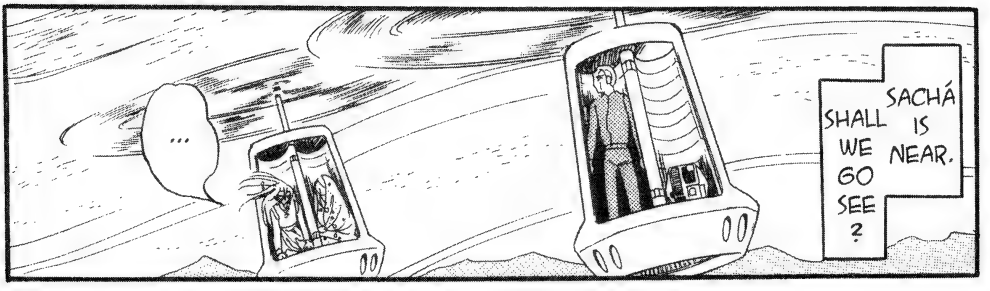
HOW HAS COSMORALIA CHANGED?
I DON'T WANT TO ADMIT IT, BUT I'M SHRINKING WITH DREAD.

AH ...

AS WE GET CLOSER TO THE CAPITAL, THESE WILL BE FILLED WITH MACHINES AND STRANGE OBJECTS WILL BE FLYING ABOUT.
OUI!

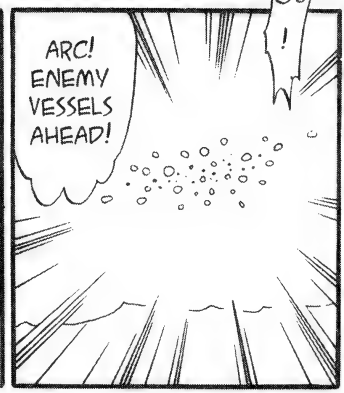

THIS MAKES IT EASIER FOR THE ENEMY TO LIVE HERE.
IT'S HOW THEY PREPARE THE SOIL FOR MECHANI-ZATION.
B... BUT WHY ...

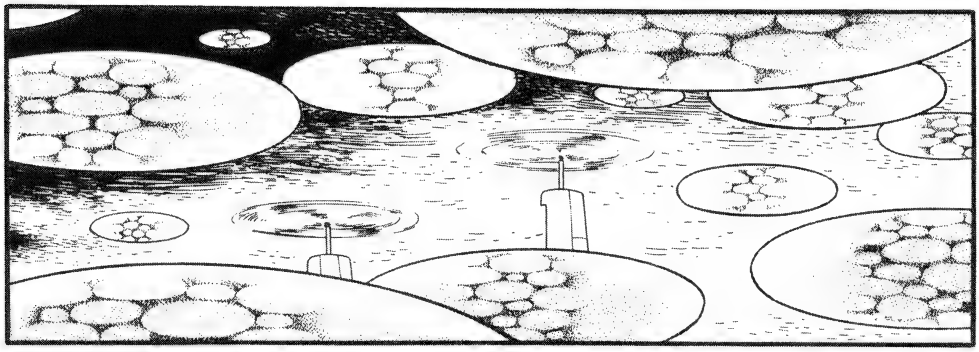
MASTER, YOU KNEW THIS PLACE WASN'T FIT FOR WALKING.
WHAT ARE THOSE HOLES ?

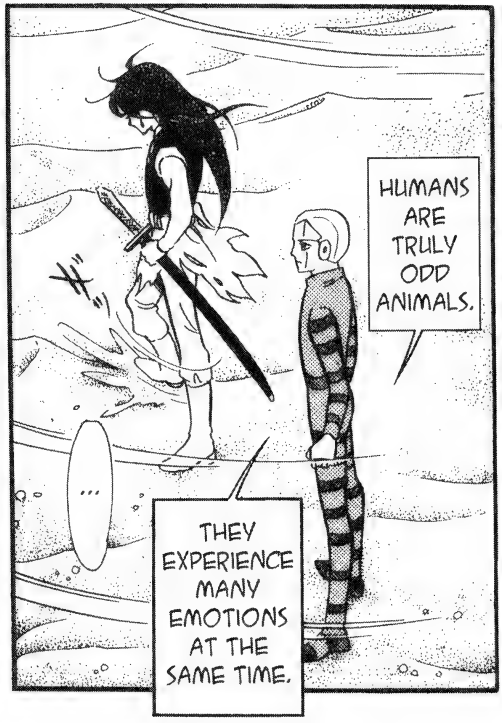

...
SHALL WE GO SEE ?
SACHÁ IS NEAR.

JUST WATCH.
AS LONG AS WE DON'T DO ANYTHING, THEY WON'T ATTACK US.

IT'S OK.
LET'S LAND AND TAKE COVER!

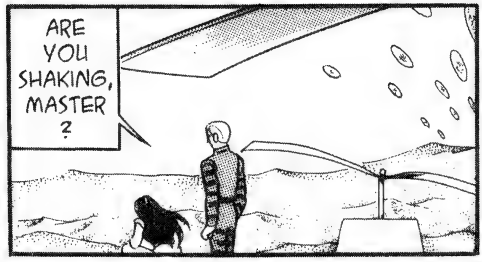

ARC! ENEMY VESSELS AHEAD!
!

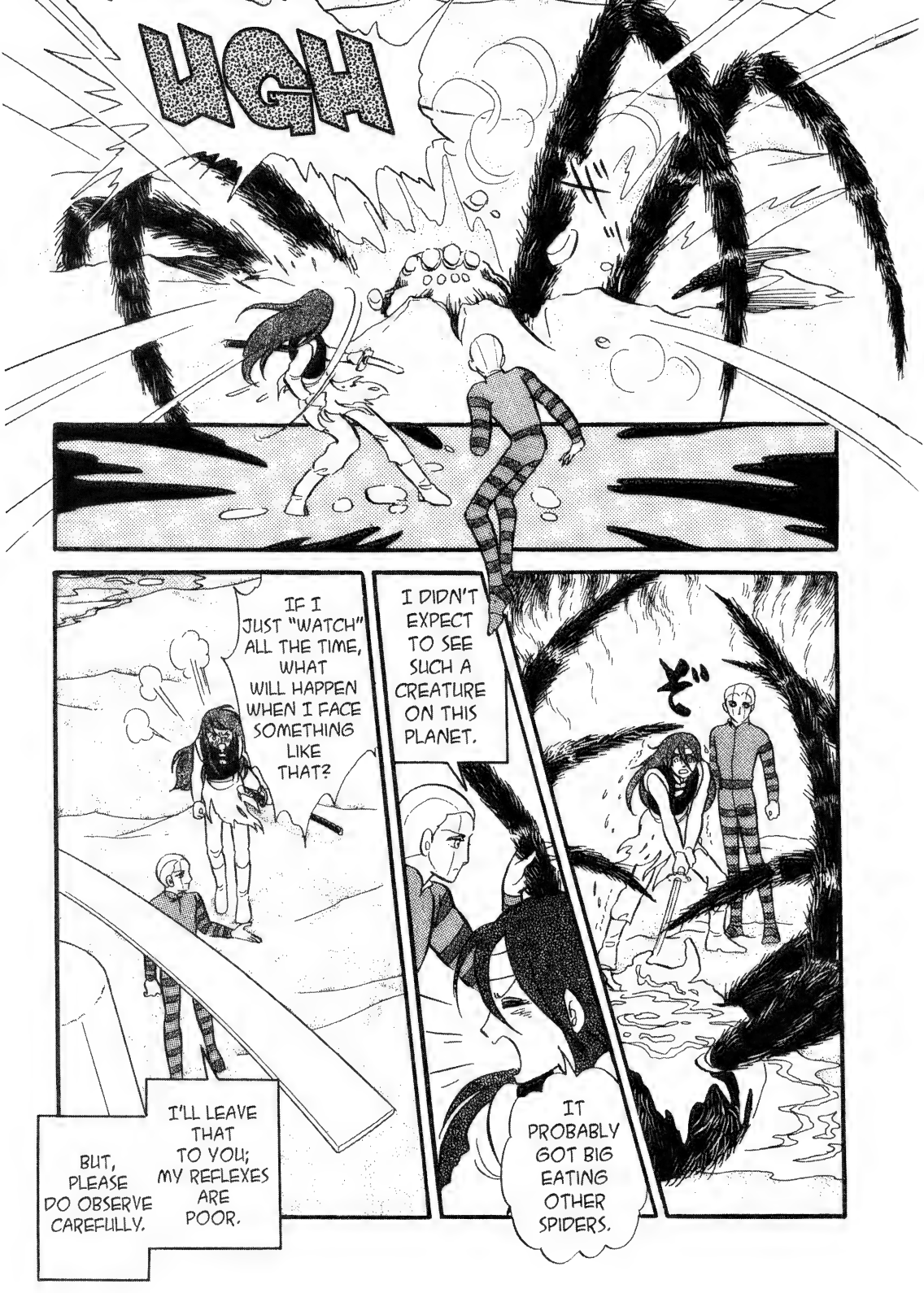



HUMANS ARE TRULY ODD ANIMALS.
...
THEY EXPERIENCE MANY EMOTIONS AT THE SAME TIME.

...

THEY DON'T EVEN MAKE A SOUND!
DAMN!

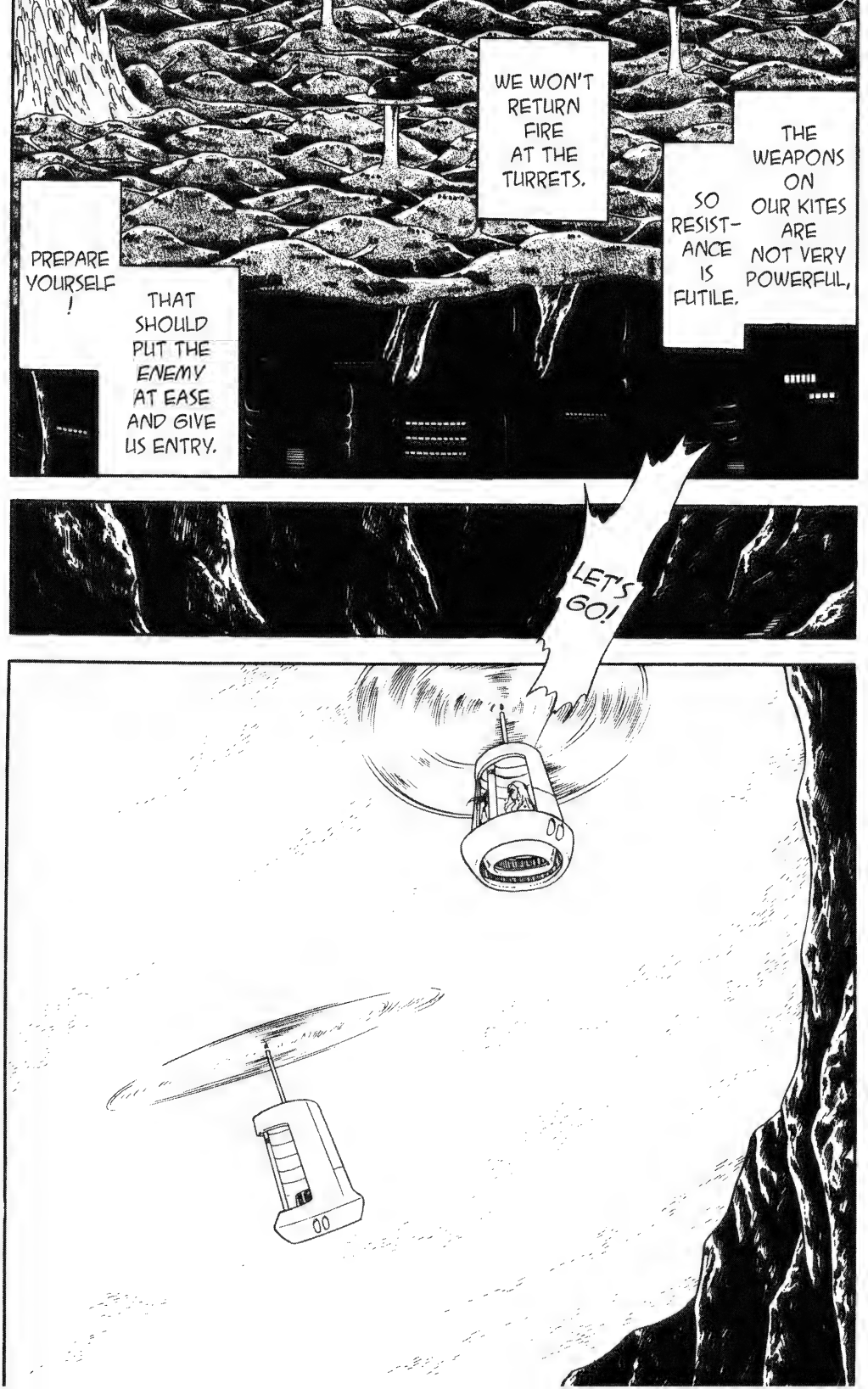

ARE YOU SHAKING, MASTER?

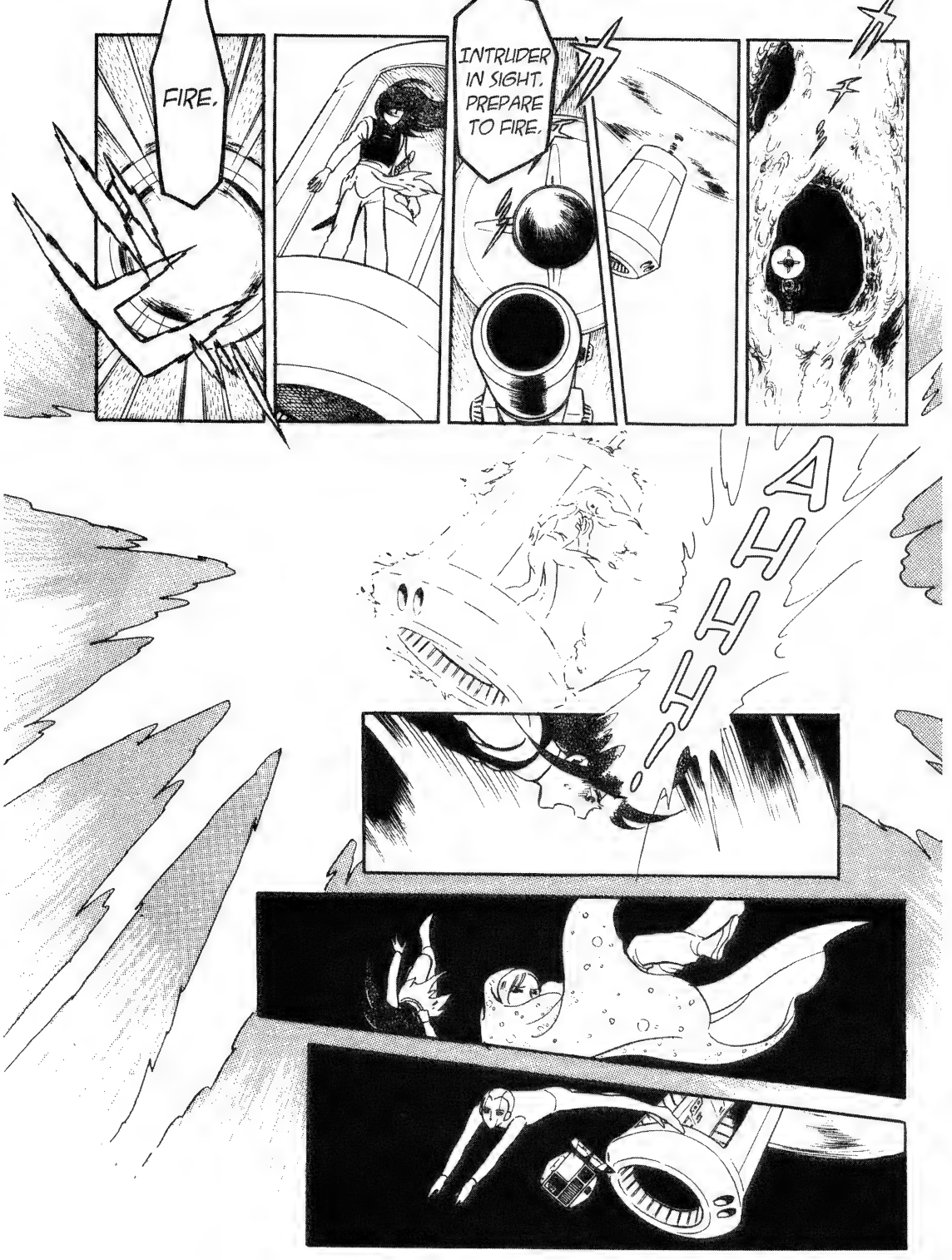

UGH
ど
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE SUCH A CREATURE ON THIS PLANET.
IT PROBABLY GOT BIG EATING OTHER SPIDERS.
IF I JUST "WATCH" ALL THE TIME, WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN I FACE SOMETHING LIKE THAT?
I'LL LEAVE THAT TO YOU; MY REFLEXES ARE POOR.
BUT, PLEASE DO OBSERVE CAREFULLY.

WELL, WE NOW HAVE ARAN-CHAN IN SIGHT.
OH...

THIS ... THIS IS ARAN-CHAN?
BUT IT'S TOO AWFUL!
WE NEED TO GET ACROSS.
FROM THIS POINT ON, THEY'RE SURE TO RESIST US.
NO HUMAN TRACE ...
THE CASTLE WALLS AND GATES... EVERY-THING'S CHANGED!

NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED.
GO BACK? THEN WHAT, MASTER?
WHAT'S THE POINT OF GOING THERE? ARC, LET'S GO BACK.
BE READY. WE MAY FACE A RUDE WELCOME.
THAT TURRET IS CLEARLY POINTED AT US.
OH, OH ...
...
THE ENEMY PLANS TO "IMPROVE" THIS ENTIRE PLANET. WHAT THEN?
...
...
YES, MASTER.
YOU'RE RIGHT.
NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED.


WE WON'T RETURN FIRE AT THE TURRETS.
THE WEAPONS ON OUR KITES ARE NOT VERY POWERFUL,
SO RESIST-ANCE IS FUTILE.
PREPARE YOURSELF!
THAT SHOULD PUT THE ENEMY AT EASE AND GIVE US ENTRY.
LET'S GO!

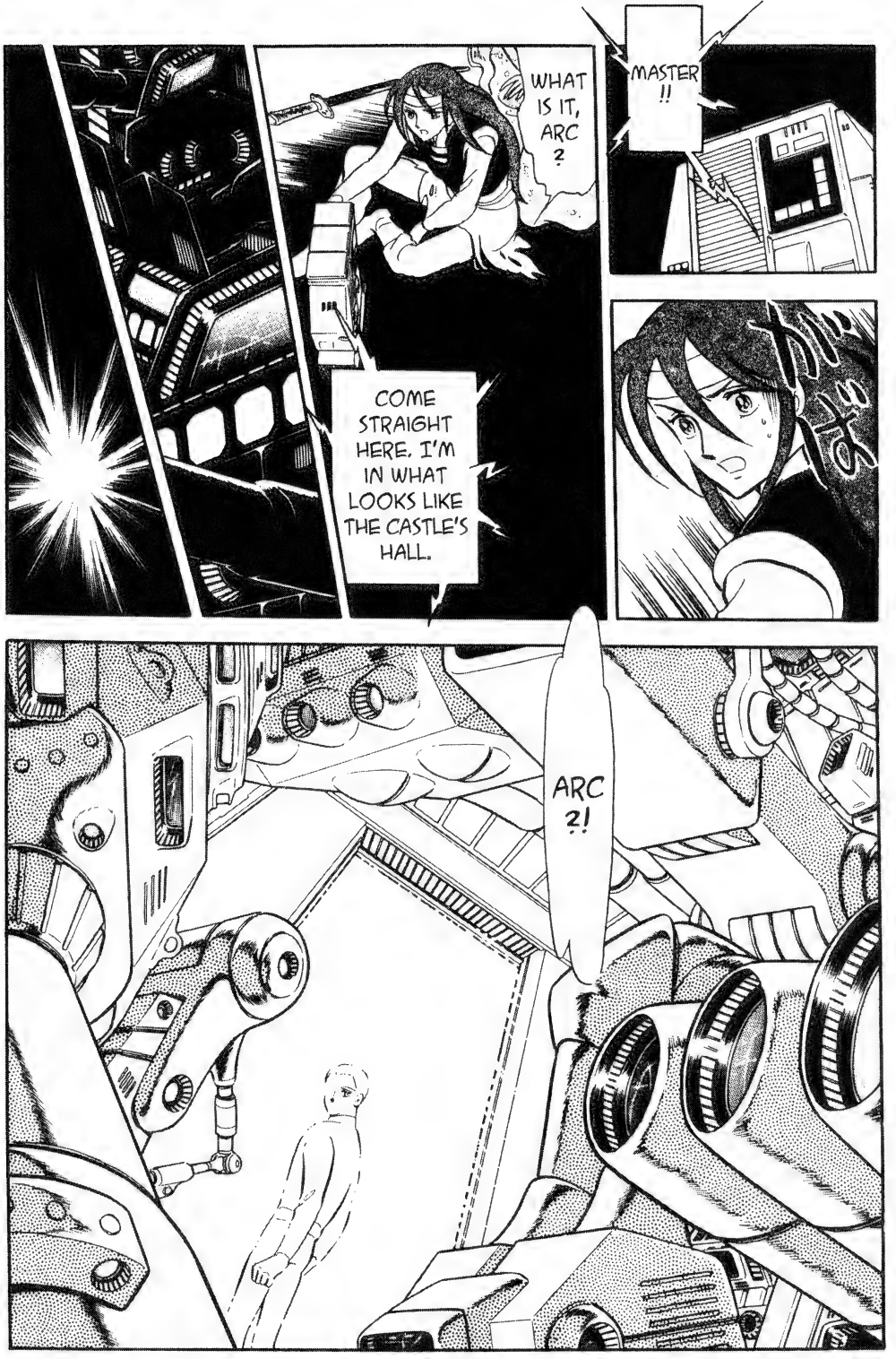

FIRE.
INTRUDER IN SIGHT. PREPARE TO FIRE.
ハハハハ!

パシュ
チッ
MASTER!!

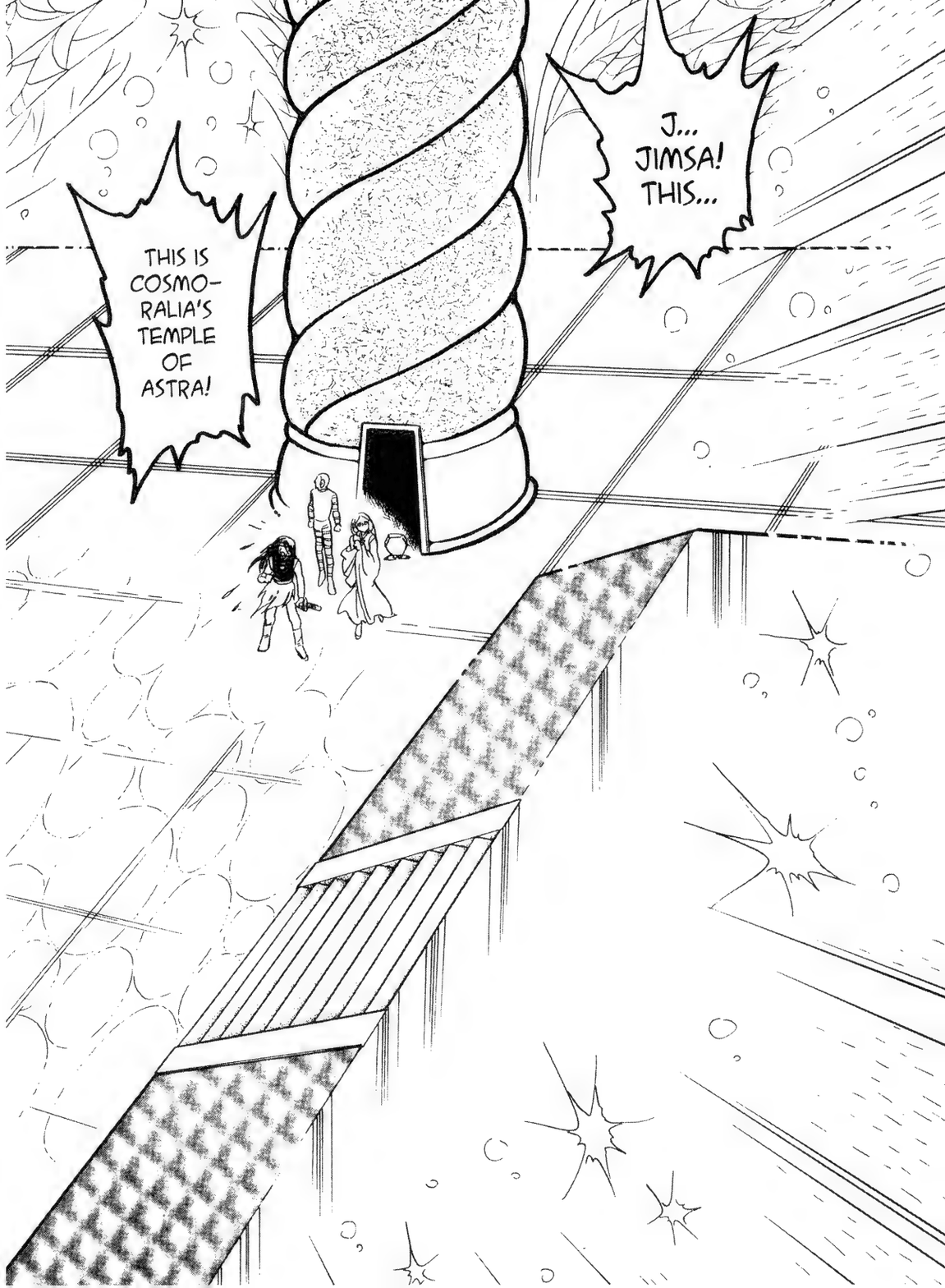
IS THIS
A GIGANTIC SPIDER'S WEB?
OOF!

ARU!
JIMSA!
JIMSA, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
ゴォォ
ゴゴゴ

IT'S OK. I STAY WITH HER. I DO GREAT JOB.
ARC, PROTECT MY MOTHER. I...
I'LL GO INVES-TIGATE.
THE MUCUS MUST HAVE BEEN SLIGHTLY TOXIC.
GET SOME REST.
FROM FEAR OF THE ENEMY!
I'M SHRIVELING UP
THIS IS PATHETIC!


MASTER !!
WHAT IS IT, ARC ?
COME STRAIGHT HERE. I'M IN WHAT LOOKS LIKE THE CASTLE'S HALL.
ARC ?!

THIS IS THE PALACE WHERE WE LIVED, JIMSA, AND WHERE YOU WERE BORN!
WHY IS IT LIKE THIS?
IT LOOKS LIKE THEY LEFT IT UN-TOUCHED!

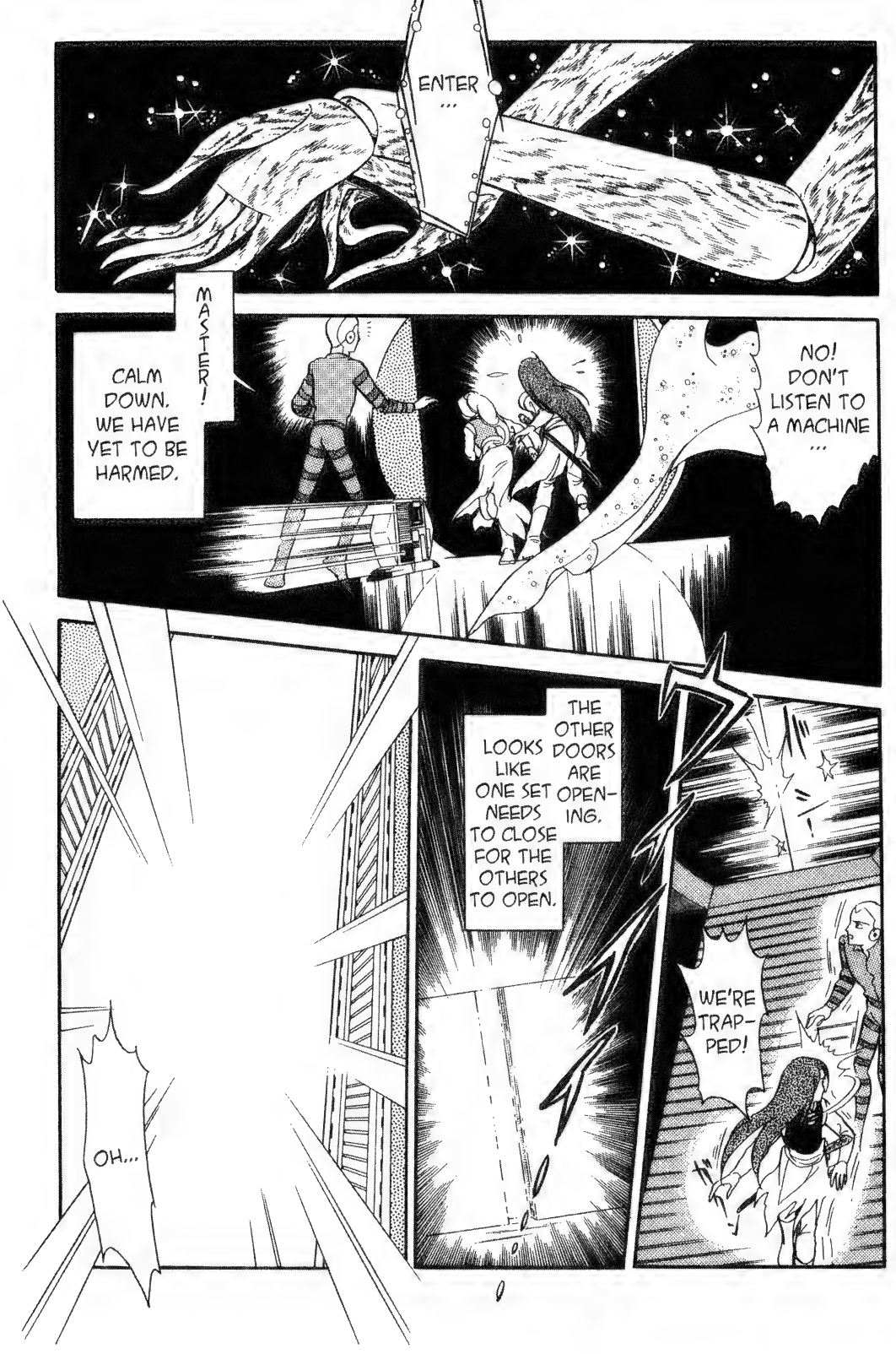

THIS IS COSMO-RALIA'S TEMPLE OF ASTRA!
J... JIMSA! THIS...

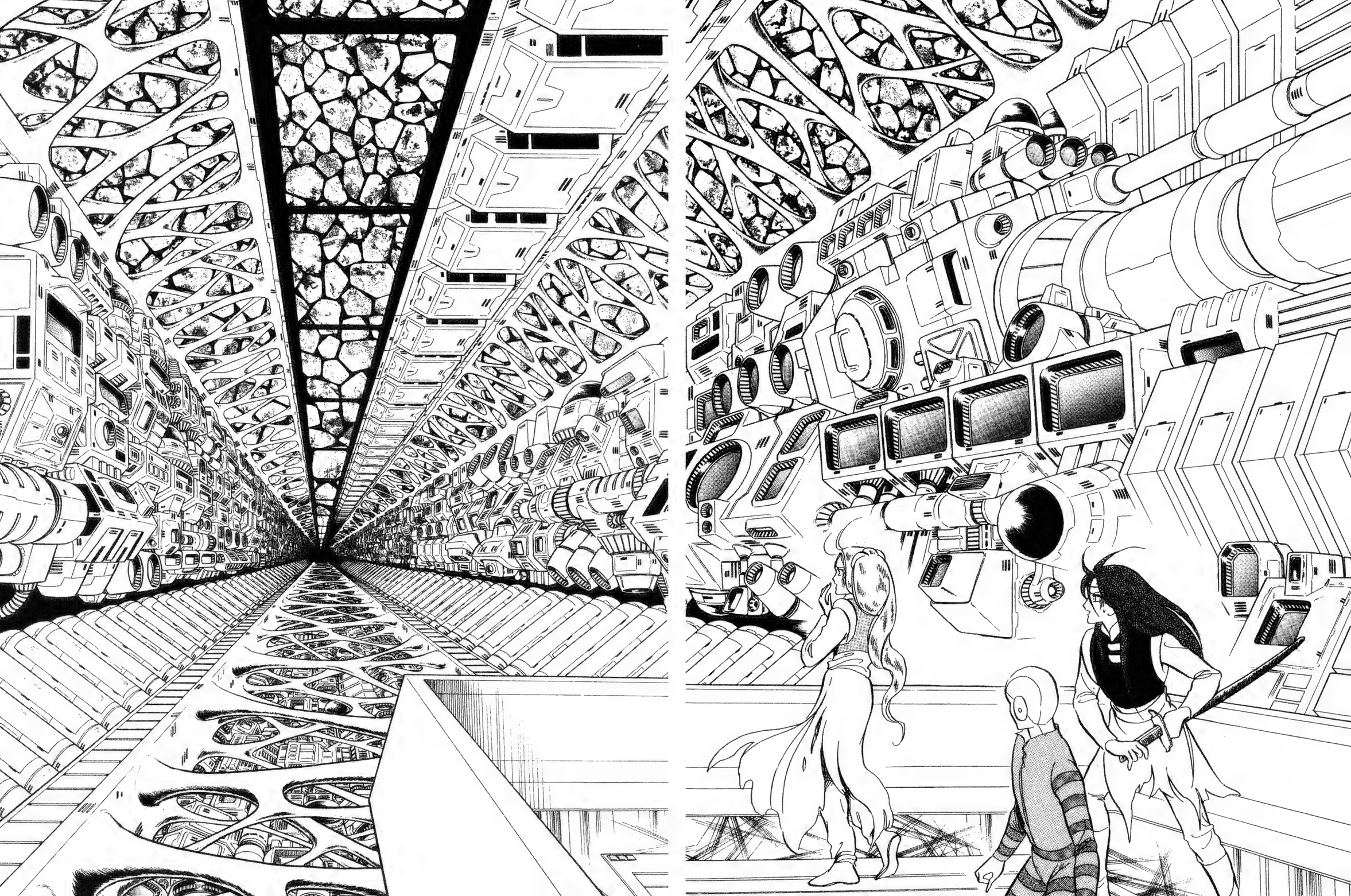
NO... IT'S A TRAP !!
COME JIMSA, STAND BEFORE GOD ASTRA...
MOM?
WHERE THE KING AND I SWORE OUR TRUE LOVE.
YES, WE HONORED GOD ASTRA IN THE INNER CHAMBER,
WE...
HAVE ...
RETURNED TO OUR DEAR CASTLE !!

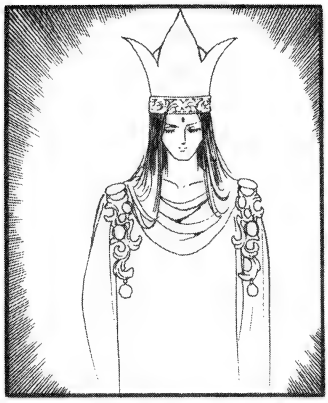
THIS ONE'S HALF BURIED IN A MACHINE.
BUT WAS IT LIKE THIS ?
...I SAW THIS IDOL AS A CHILD...
GOD ASTRA,
YOU STILL STAND BY US!
MASTER
THE IDOL'S EYES ARE ...
OPEN-ING!

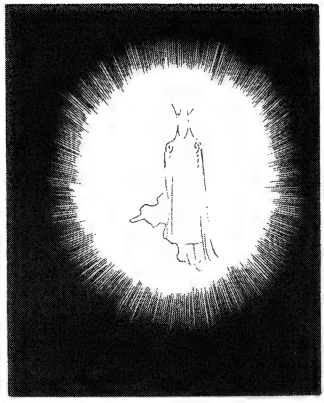
IT WAS BEHIND US, BUT NOW I CAN'T MAKE IT OUT.
ARC, WHERE'S THE EXIT ?!
ARE YOU REGISTERED WITH THE KINGDOM? STATE YOUR BUSINESS.
WHO ...
WHO ARE YOU ?
BU?
BU?
BU?
FIND THE DOORS, ARC. HURRY!

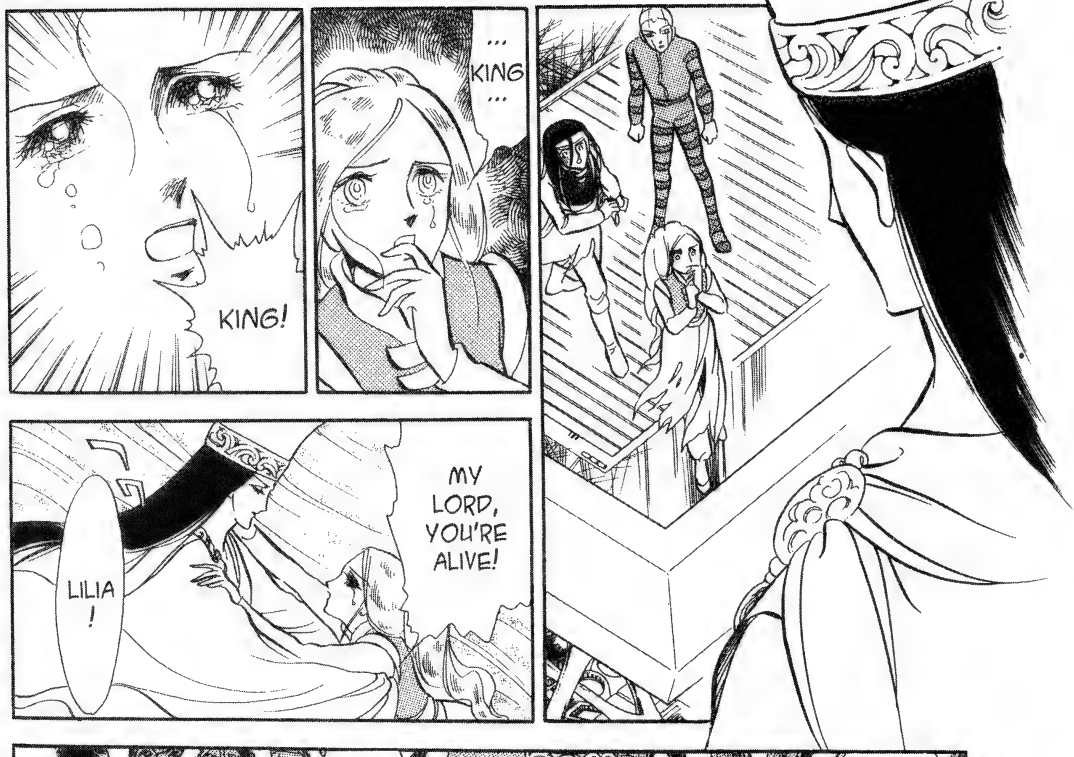
WHO... ARE YOU ...?
MOM ...
MOM ?!
DEAR GOD...
WE ARE THE QUEEN AND PRINCE OF COSMO-RALIA!
WE HAVE RETURNED TO THE PALACE. WHERE... IS MY HUSBAND ?
I WISH TO SEE THE KING.
MOM
DON'T BE FOOLISH. AN IDOL CAN'T SPEAK!
THE QUEEN LILIA ?
THE KINGDOM HAS SEARCHED FOR YOU FOR A VERY LONG TIME...
THE KING IS HERE, ALIVE AND WELL. YOU SHALL MEET HIM.

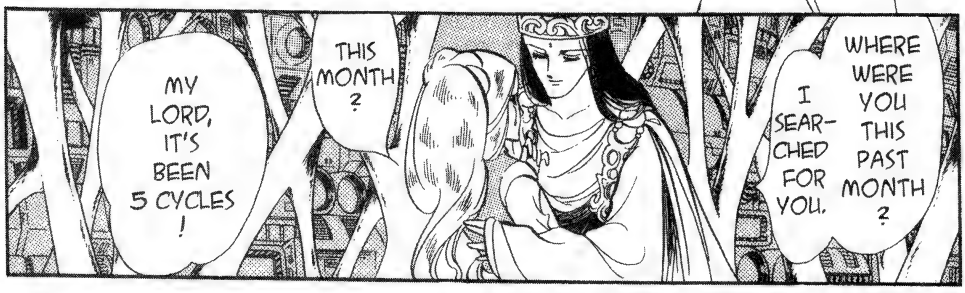

ENTER ...
MASTER!
CALM DOWN. WE HAVE YET TO BE HARMED.
NO! DON'T LISTEN TO A MACHINE ...
THE OTHER DOORS ARE OPENING.
LOOKS LIKE ONE SET NEEDS TO CLOSE FOR THE OTHERS TO OPEN.
WE'RE TRAPPED!
OH...

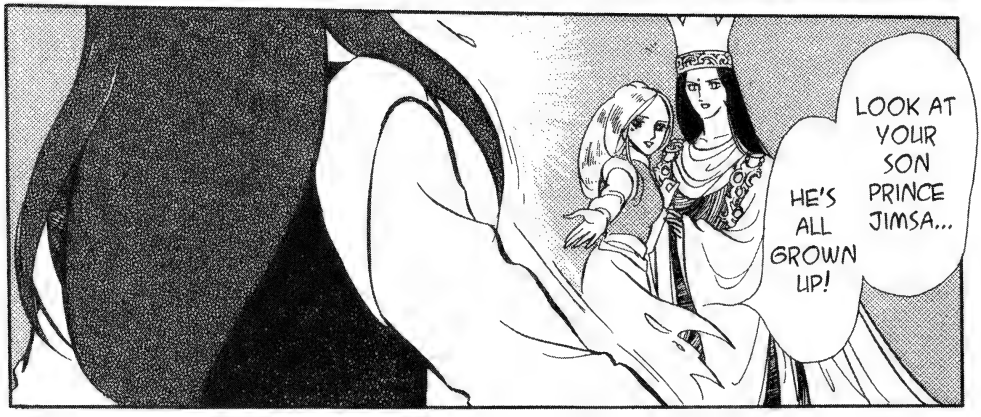






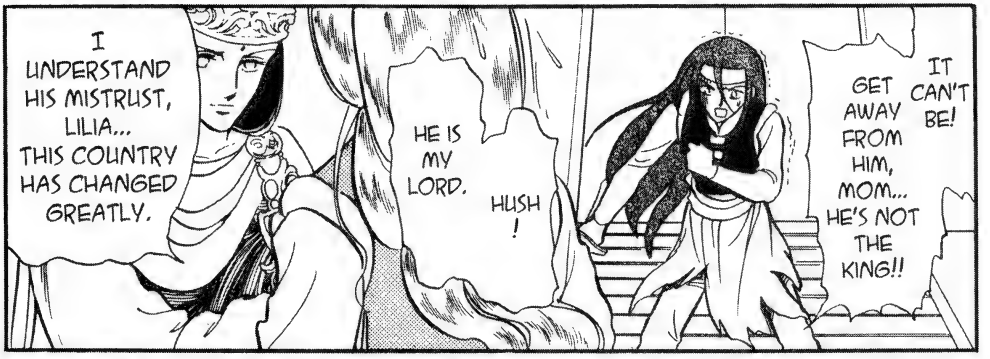

KING!
...KING...
MY LORD, YOU'RE ALIVE!
LILIA!

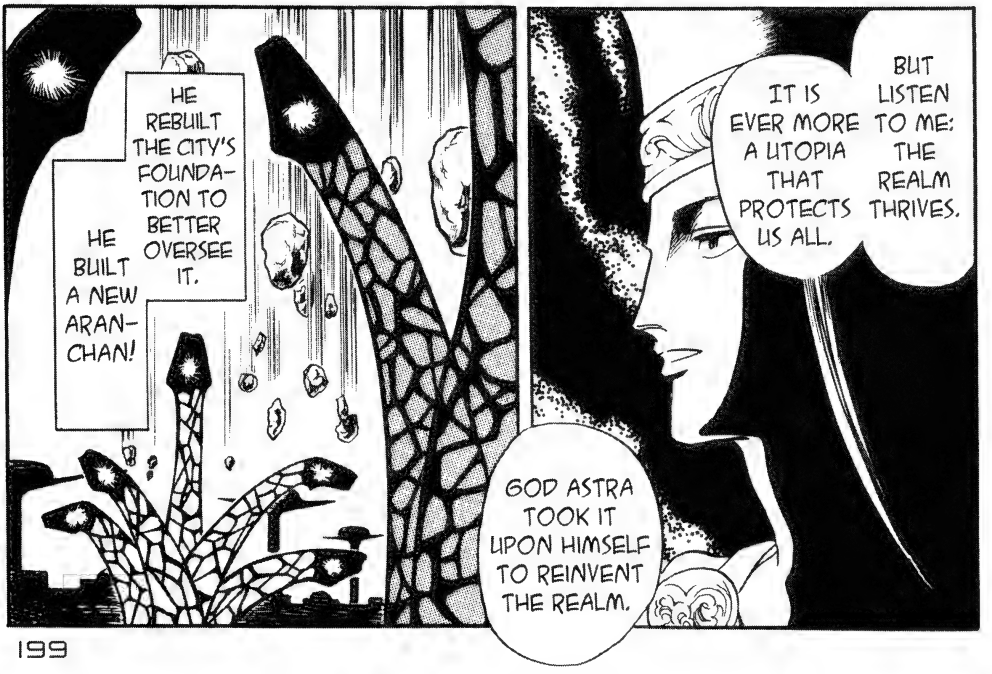

WHERE WERE YOU THIS PAST MONTH?
I SEARCHED FOR YOU.
THIS MONTH?
MY LORD, IT'S BEEN 5 CYCLES!


LOOK AT YOUR SON PRINCE JIMSA...
HE'S ALL GROWN UP!

SO I'VE BEEN ASLEEP FOR 5 CYCLES ?
STAY AWAY !
JIMSA?
YOU'RE NOT MY FATHER.
YOU'RE A MACHINE !
A MACHINE !
JIMSA, HOW DARE YOU DRAW YOUR SWORD ON YOUR FATHER?!

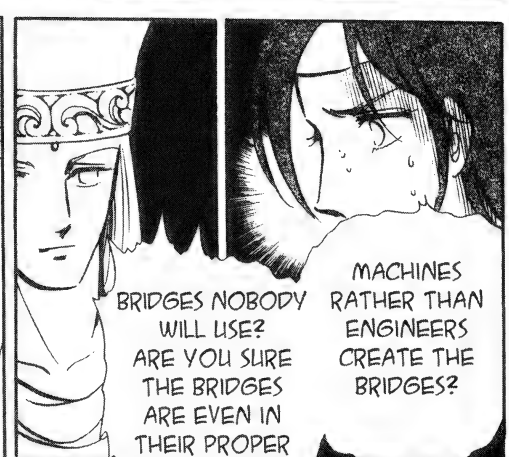
CAN'T BE...
HE'S FLESH AND BLOOD, MASTER. ISN'T HE YOUR KIN?
BLOOD?
COULD A MACHINE BLEED?

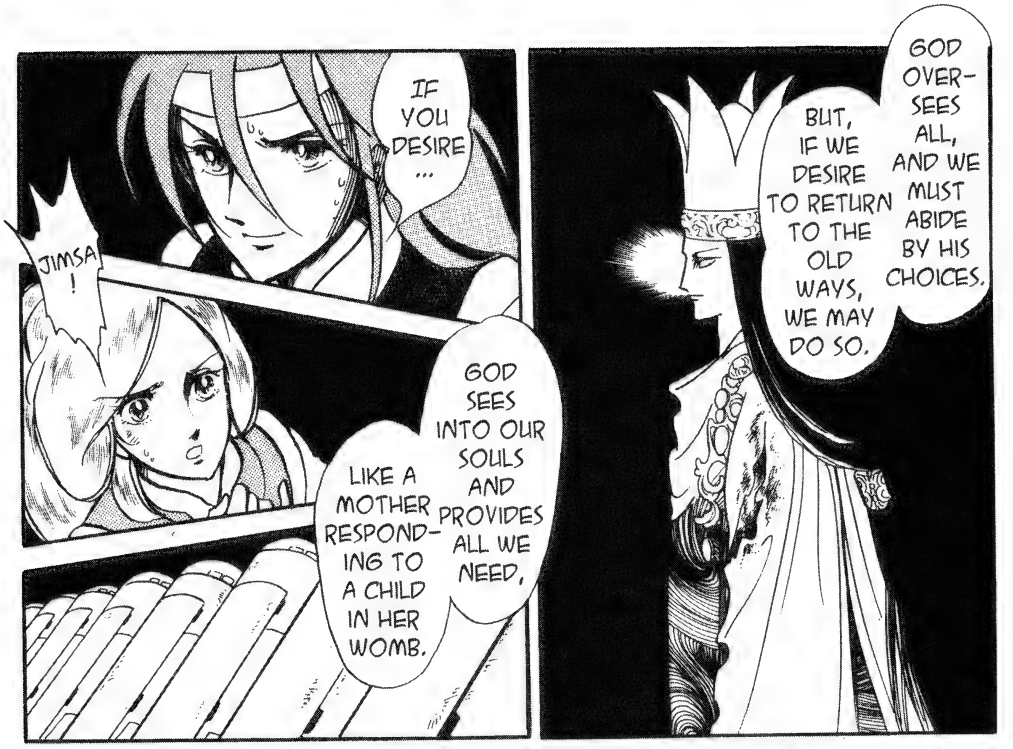

I UNDERSTAND HIS MISTRUST, LILIA... THIS COUNTRY HAS CHANGED GREATLY.
HE IS MY LORD.
HUSH!
GET AWAY FROM HIM, MOM... HE'S NOT THE KING!!
IT CAN'T BE!

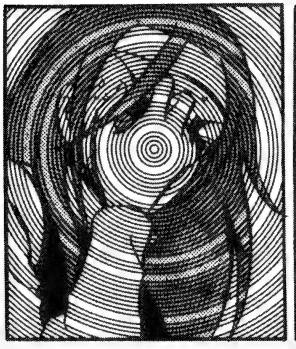

HE REBUILT THE CITY'S FOUNDATION TO BETTER OVERSEE IT.
HE BUILT A NEW ARAN-CHAN!
IT IS EVER MORE A UTOPIA THAT PROTECTS US ALL.
BUT LISTEN TO ME: THE REALM THRIVES.
GOD ASTRA TOOK IT UPON HIMSELF TO REINVENT THE REALM.

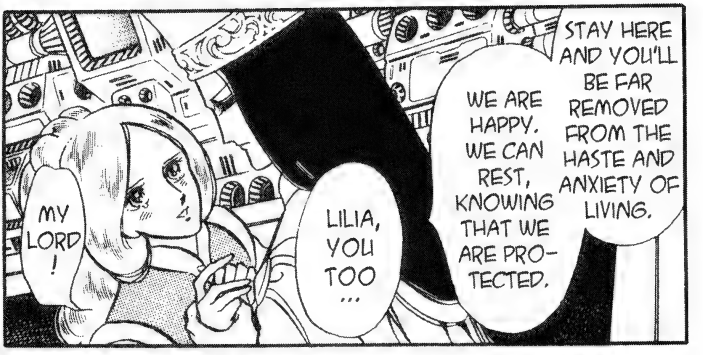
HE GATHERED THE PEOPLE, SEPARATING THEIR BODIES AND SOULS TO BE PRESERVED INDEPENDENTLY.
PEOPLE NOW SPEAK TO EACH OTHER TELEPATHICALLY THROUGH GOD.
THOSE WHO HAD JUST DIED WERE BROUGHT BACK TO LIFE, AND WRECKED BODIES WERE MENDED.
GOD ASTRA GIVES US PRECISE ORDERS FOR EVERYTHING.
IF WE DECIDE TO BUILD A BRIDGE, THE ENGINEERS CAN BUILD IT WITHOUT SO MUCH AS MOVING.
I CONFER WITH THE MINISTERS DAILY WITHOUT USING MY EYES, EARS, OR MOUTH.
THE REALM'S PEOPLE AND MINISTERS ARE ALL HAPPY WITH THIS NEW WAY OF BEING.

YOU MUST GO SEE FOR YOURSELF
JUST HOW INHUMAN THIS REALM IS.


BRIDGES NOBODY WILL USE? ARE YOU SURE THE BRIDGES ARE EVEN IN THEIR PROPER LOCATIONS?
MACHINES RATHER THAN ENGINEERS CREATE THE BRIDGES?

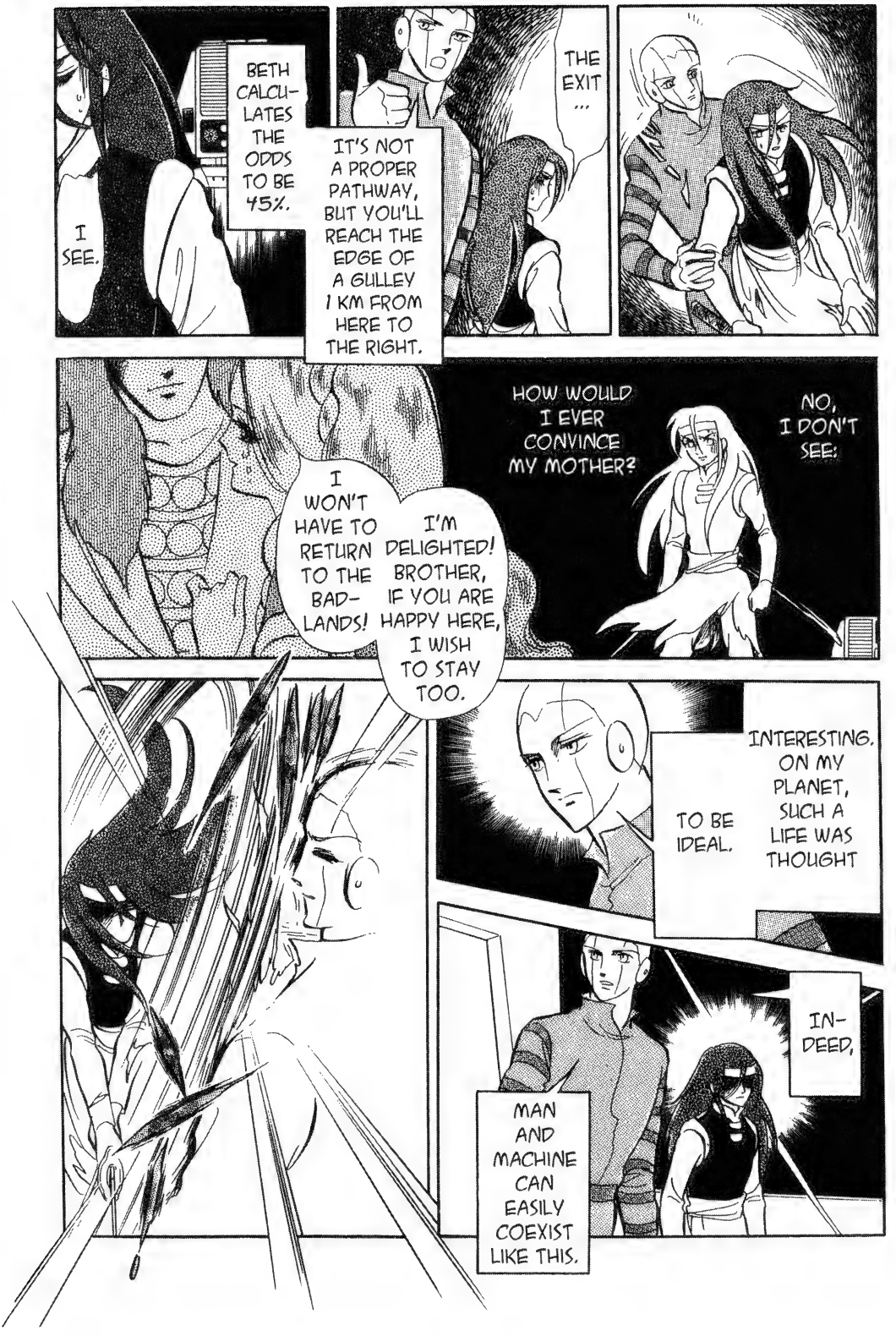

IF YOU DESIRE ...
JIMSA!
GOD SEES INTO OUR SOULS AND PROVIDES ALL WE NEED,
LIKE A MOTHER RESPONDING TO A CHILD IN HER WOMB.
BUT, IF WE DESIRE TO RETURN TO THE OLD WAYS, WE MAY DO SO.
GOD OVERSEES ALL, AND WE MUST ABIDE BY HIS CHOICES.



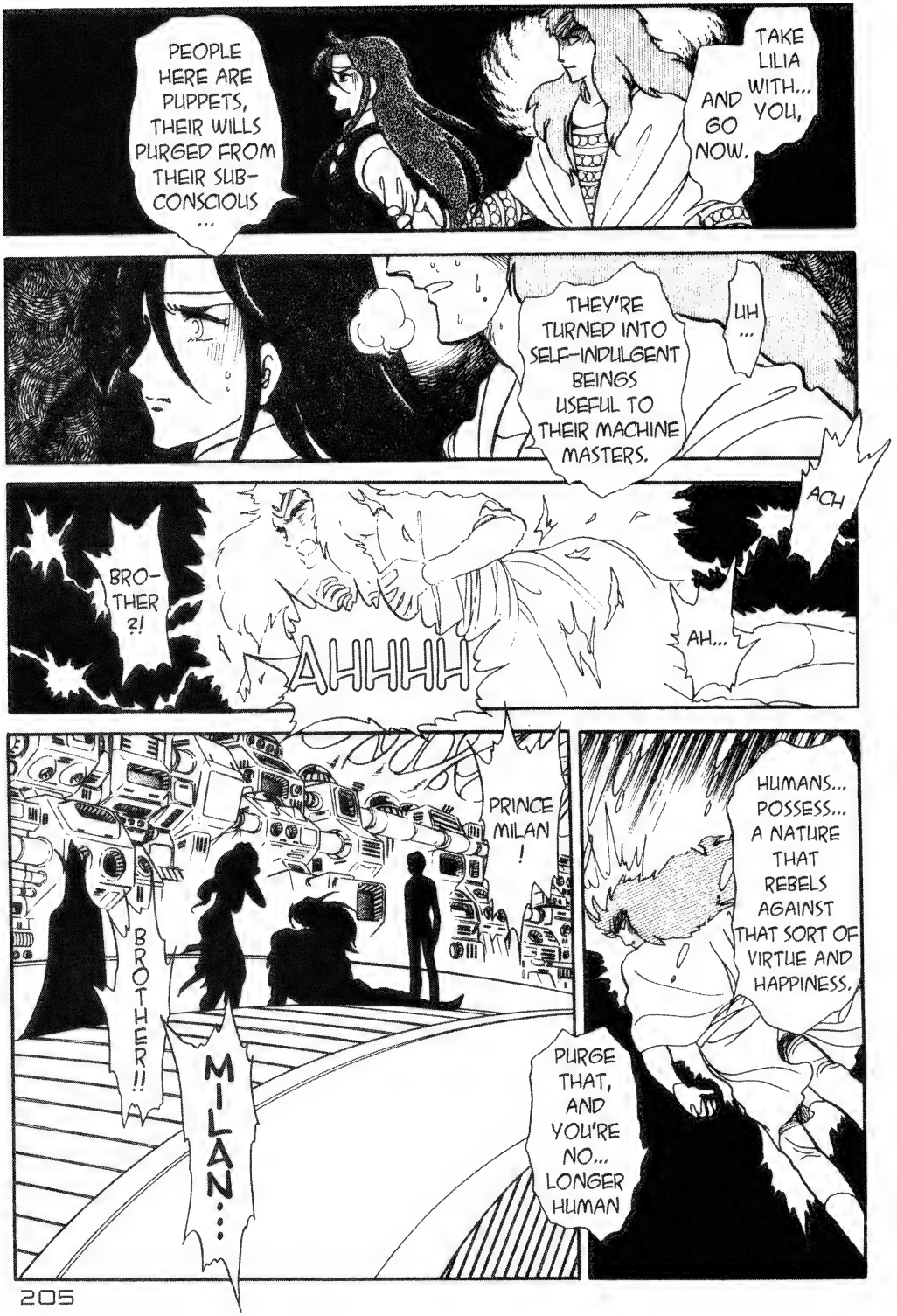

MY LORD!
LILIA, YOU TOO ...
WE ARE HAPPY. WE CAN REST, KNOWING THAT WE ARE PROTECTED.
STAY HERE AND YOU'LL BE FAR REMOVED FROM THE HASTE AND ANXIETY OF LIVING.

MY BROTHER MILAN... CAN IT BE?
THIS ROOM IS CONNECTED TO THE AYODOYAN STOREROOM. WE CAN CALL HIM AT ONCE.
ASK YOUR BROTHER IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME.

LILIA ...
BROTHER! I THOUGHT YOU WERE DEAD, MILAN. I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE ALIVE.


I SEE.
BETH CALCU-LATES THE ODDS TO BE 45%.
IT'S NOT A PROPER PATHWAY, BUT YOU'LL REACH THE EDGE OF A GULLEY 1 KM FROM HERE TO THE RIGHT.
THE EXIT ...
HOW WOULD I EVER CONVINCE MY MOTHER?
NO, I DON'T SEE.
I WON'T HAVE TO RETURN TO THE BAD-LANDS!
I'M DELIGHTED! BROTHER, IF YOU ARE HAPPY HERE, I WISH TO STAY TOO.
INTERESTING. ON MY PLANET, SUCH A LIFE WAS THOUGHT TO BE IDEAL.
IN-DEED,
MAN AND MACHINE CAN EASILY COEXIST LIKE THIS.

YOU CALL THAT LIVING ?
WHY? NO ONE WILL HARM YOU.
GOD WILL PROTECT US FOREVER!
PHEW ... HE TORE MY SHIRT
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF THIS PLACE. I'M GOING.
BUT I DO KNOW THAT I DON'T WANT TO LIVE UNDER THE PRO-TECTION OF MACHINES!
I DON'T KNOW EXACTLY WHAT HAPPINESS MIGHT BE...
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? IF YOU LEAVE, WHAT WOULD I...
DON'T GO !
NO... PRINCE JIMSA, GO.
STOP HIM!
BRO-THER! STOP JIMSA ...


TAKE LILIA WITH... AND GO NOW.
YOU,
PEOPLE HERE ARE PUPPETS, THEIR WILLS PURGED FROM THEIR SUB-CONSCIOUS ...
UH ...
THEY'RE TURNED INTO SELF-INDULGENT BEINGS USEFUL TO THEIR MACHINE MASTERS.
ACH
BRO-THER ?!
AHHHH
AH...
PRINCE MILAN !
HUMANS... POSSESS... A NATURE THAT REBELS AGAINST THAT SORT OF VIRTUE AND HAPPINESS.
BROTHER!!
MILAN...
PURGE THAT, AND YOU'RE NO... LONGER HUMAN

GET THEM.
KING... CAPTURE THE TWO.
JIMSA AGLIMA SOLT-LEID,
WE MUST HAVE A LONG TALK.
...MY LORD!

アンドロメダ・ストーリーズ 2

竹宮惠子
Keiko TAKEMIYA

原作 光瀬 龍

STORIES OF ANDROMEDA GALAXY

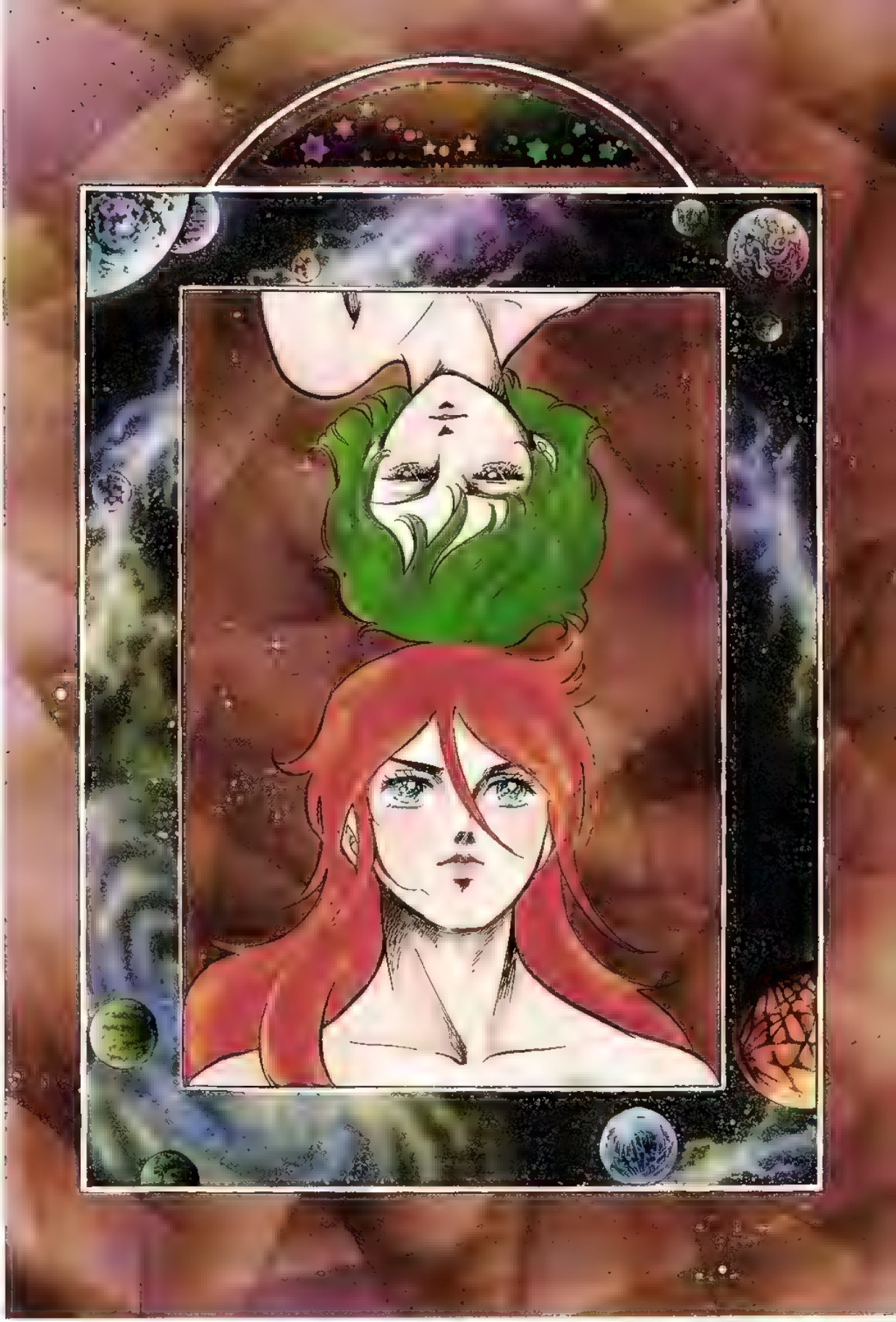
アンドロメダ・ストーリーズ

STORIES OF ANDROMEDA GALAXY

2

竹宮惠子

高橋光頼龍



Stories of Andromeda galaxy

Stories of Andromeda galaxy

王子ムサ

Stories of Andromeda galaxy

星々の流れ

SIGMA PLAYER

Stories of Andromeda galaxy

王の夢 祈りを越えて

——どこにかくれた？

そこだ！出てこい

ボウッ！

——悪く思うな

長居は無用だ
フワッ
……ハッ
何か――来る
五、六――七人
いや七匹か？
ドドドド
アウッ

念動者!?
——テレパシーも受けつけない蛮族が……
ウ…

"YOU MAY BE THE ONE... TO UNBIND THE CHAINS OF THIS UNIVERSE!"

The machine race known only as the *Enemy* has swiftly taken over the Cosmoralian Empire, but Queen Lilia and her son, Prince Jimsa, manage to flee. The only place to escape to, however, is the desert wasteland where the elements, predatory beasts, and bandits pose almost as great a threat to survival as the machine invaders. Prince Jimsa, growing ever stronger in the face of adversity, prepares to inherit his mantle as the Sun King, the descendant of the combined Murat, Ayodoyan, and Cosmoralian legacies. It will fall upon his shoulders to turn the machines away before it's too late.

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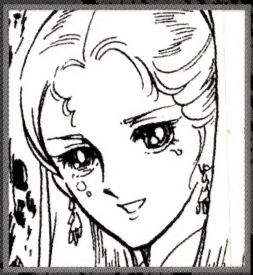
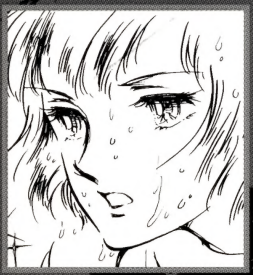
Prince Jimsa
Son of King Ithaca and Queen Lilia, the great hope of the movement to resist the invaders.



Queen Lilia
Ithaca's wife, whose longing for her husband threatens to bring her under the machines' control.



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